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[SIXPENCE.]

THE CLAIMS AND POSITION OF LITERATURE.

THE recent death of an eminent historian, who, during the last years of his life, enjoyed a small pension from the Government, has invested the question of literary pensions with a temporary interest, and excited a controversy upon the expediency of such grants. It is desirable that this question should occasionally be mooted, and that the position of a class of men who exercise so large an influence over the mind and character of the nation should be well considered, with a view of discovering whether society does its duty by them, and whether they, on their part, do their duty by society. Nothing but good can flow from the discussion.

The Government of this country is supposed to set aside the small sum of £1200 annually to be granted in pensions to men eminent in science and literature. This sum, however, does not reach them. There are other claimants upon it, who intercept it in its progress; and sums of £400 and £500 out of this fund find their way into the pockets of individuals, who, whatever may be their claims upon Royalty or the country, have none upon this particular fund. But, leaving this circumstance out of the question, and supposing that the £1200 per annum is religiously devoted to the reward of the persons for whose benefit it is granted, Literature may well ask, whether such a niggardly recognition of its claims be worth accepting, and whether it would not be more consonant with its dignity to refuse the alms even of a great nation, and put forward a new claim—not of favour, but of right?

Upon the general question of the claims of literature and lite-

rary men to the respect and honour of a civilised people, there can be no doubt. Literature is a mighty teacher; and in our day the general diffusion of a knowledge of reading and writing among the masses of our population extends its influence into sub-strata of society where formerly its light never penetrated. The literary man is, more than ever, the priest and teacher of the people. It is our duty and interest, as a state, to see that the pressure of worldly circumstances (generally adverse to the man who is wiser than the masses, and who devotes himself to intellectual pursuits—not always the most profitable in a purely commercial country) does not force him to the unhappy alternative of writing for a degraded, rather than for a cultivated taste—to the level of the half or imperfectly informed multitude, rather than to the level of the wiser few. As long as literature remains a mere thing of the shop—a purely commercial speculation, in which author and bookseller engage for the sake of profit, so long will there be a class of writers who will have it in their power to inflict injury upon the community by pandering to its vices, its prejudices, and its ignorance. So long, also, will there be another and a scarcer class inspired by nobler sentiments—the missionaries of a holier cause, who will devote themselves to literature for the love they bear it, and die its martyrs.

The influence of literature is daily becoming more extended; and its power to degrade is, unluckily, as great as its power to exalt the intellect and the morality of the people. Any one who examines into the present state of the cheap literary market, will be appalled at the unblushing effrontery, the shameless pruriency and open vice which are exhibited in publications that appeal for support to the

ignorant many. The Government of a free and a highly-civilised state might well afford to present a few prizes of the many at its command to excite the honourable ambition of men of literary ability. Nothing could possibly be lost, but much would assuredly be gained by such policy. A highly influential class would be recognised as a power, and that power would be more uniformly exerted than at present in support of virtue against vice, of order against disorder, and of wisdom against ignorance.

At the same time, while the State held out to the young and the aspiring these prizes—prizes, be it remembered, which the army, the navy, the church, and the law offer in large numbers to these better recognised and more fortunate professions—it ought to be ashamed of neglect or niggardliness towards the aged and the unworldly, who might, in the course of a useful life, have conferred honour upon the name and the literature of England. No greater calamity can befall a civilised people than the miserable death of its benefactors. Burns, the poet, is the glory of his country; but Burns, the wretched, self-degraded exciseman—what Scotchman can think of him without a blush or a sigh for the generation of his countrymen that allowed of such a termination? Milton's name is a tower of strength to the English language, and endears the soil of this little island to the hearts of millions of a kindred people who never beheld it. Englishmen are proud of the name; but when they reflect that its possessor, old and blind, was obliged to descend from a high and honourable position in the service of the State, and yoke himself to the uncongenial and ill-paid drudgery of a daily school, they



THE MILITARY, NAVAL, AND COUNTY SERVICE CLUB, ST. JAMES'S-STREET.—PRINCIPAL DRAWINGROOM.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The question of La Plata has again engaged the Legislature in Paris this week; the committee, to which it had been referred back, made a supplemental report, in which it rejected the amendment of M. de Rancé, granting 10,000,000. for an expedition against Rosas, because it considered that it ought to be left to the Government to apportion the means to the end in view, and also because it was impolitic to fix the precise amount of the grant, as it would be the means of informing the adversary of the maximum of the efforts France would be disposed to make against him. The report concluded by a new amendment, suggested by the committee, to the following effect:—"The National Assembly invites the Executive Power to support the negotiation, which it now prepares to enter on, by forces sufficient to ensure its success, as well as the safety of the French subjects at La Plata." On the presentation of this report, M. de Rancé declared that he withdrew his former amendment, for which he now substituted the following:—"Considering that the Le Prédour treaty has not been submitted to the ratification of the Legislative Assembly, whereas the Government declares that it intends to continue the negotiations, for the purpose of guaranteeing the honour and interests of the Republic; and considering that under any circumstances the French in La Plata will be properly protected against any eventualities which may arise on the banks of the Plata, the Assembly passes to the order of the day."

In the discussion that ensued, M. Thiers raised his voice for war. He strongly supported the necessity of an armed expedition. England and the United States had monopolised the transport of coal and cotton, those commodities that required a great commercial fleet. French ships were few in the ports of North America. But they were more numerous than those of any other country in South America. The future of the French navy lay there. After depicting Buenos Ayres as sterile and unhealthy, he represented Monte Video as a land of production and health, and denounced the cruelties of Oribe and Rosas. Four thousand Englishmen had conquered China. Let France do as much by raising her navy estimates to five millions sterling.

M. de Rancé's amendment, however, was adopted, by a majority of 333 to 300. The first article of the *projet* of the Government, which opened an account of 180,000*fr.* to ensure the payment of the subsidies which had been granted to the Oriental Republic by the treaty of the 12th of June, 1848, was next adopted, as were also articles 2 and 3.

The Assembly then proceeded to vote the *ensemble* of the law, which was carried by 496 to 88.

The course resolved on by the Government, now that they have got a majority in favour of their views, is said to be to send an expedition immediately to Monte Video to be composed of from 2000 to 3000 men, to support their negotiations with Rosas.

M. Dupin having been elected to again fill the President's chair in the Chamber, refused the honour, on account of the smallness of his majority over his competitors; he was a second time, however, elected, with a large majority, which satisfied his dignity, and he resumed his Presidential functions.

A good deal of discussion has occurred in the Paris journals, on the subject of the following article, which appeared in one of the numbers of a new paper just started, called the *Napoleon*, and which is the especial organ of the President of the Republic. The article is understood to be from the pen of Louis Napoleon himself, and is regarded as a defiance to the majority in the Chamber, who so feebly support his Ministry. It was communicated to several journals, enclosed in an envelope, bearing the seal of the office of Minister of Foreign Affairs; but that Minister denies all knowledge of it. It is as follows:—"In consequence of the feeble majority obtained by the late measures of the Government, certain journals, whose intentions are open to doubt, advise the Ministry to retire. They pretend in arguing, on certain customs of the past, that, after such checks, Ministers who respect themselves can no longer remain in office. These journals are, or feign to be, ignorant of what is now the position of the responsible head of the Executive Government. In the new order of things, so long as the Ministers enjoy the confidence of the President, they meet with no check. Once for all, we inform the obstinate defenders of the old constitutional routine, that the Chief of the State will retain his Ministers in spite of jealous attacks, and that the deplorable fact of Ministerial instability will not be produced again at the will of Parliamentary ambition."

It speaks little for the prudence of the President, to thus enter the lists of newspaper warfare. Three hundred Polish refugees, residing in Paris, have been informed that the stipend hitherto allowed will cease after the 1st of January. The sitting of the French Academy on Tuesday was more than usually interesting. M. Guizot read an historical fragment on the restoration of the Stuarts. The Academy was much crowded. General de Lamoricière has arrived in Paris. A letter from Toulouse states that a duel took place between two artillerymen in garrison there on the 2nd inst. One of them received his adversary's sword through the heart, and died on the spot.

ITALIAN STATES.

From Rome we learn (*via Paris*) that General Baragney d'Hilliers (the French Commander-in-Chief) and the Papal authorities are not likely to come to any friendly arrangement; General d'Hilliers insisting upon leaving a force of 12,000 men in the city of Rome, while the Cardinals wish to place the Pope under the protection of a mixed garrison of Austrians and Italians. The Bishop Monsignor Moroni has been murdered at Faringa. Monsignor Moroni was the prelate who warned Count Rossi that he was to be assassinated. There is no other news of interest from the other parts of Italy.

AUSTRIA.

By an Imperial ordinance dated the 1st inst., the Emperor declares that the restoration of order and tranquillity admits of a reduction of the army, and divers pacific changes, preparatory to the re-establishment of affairs on a footing of peace. In this document his Majesty speaks with gratitude of the services rendered by the army, and of the assistance given by Russia. From Klagenfurt we learn of the serious illness of Görgey, the late Hungarian General. The *Wanderer* has letters from Shumla, stating that M. Kmety, late Hungarian General, who lately entered the service of the Porte, has been appointed to the post of Governor and Commander of the fortress of Shumla.

UNITED STATES.

Accounts which reached Liverpool on Wednesday, from New York, dated the 26th ult. have at length brought the long-expected President's Message, which was delivered on the 24th. General Taylor recommends very strongly a revision of the tariff, and its adjustment on a basis which, by a system of specific duties, shall afford substantial and sufficient encouragement to American industry, and, at the same time, insure stability.

The question of continuing the Sub-Treasury system is submitted to Congress; and, if continued, the President is of opinion that important modifications are necessary. In the finances there is a deficiency of only sixteen million dollars this year, and the General at once recommends a loan, in addition to the debt and taxes. With reference to the veto power, the President regards it as one to be resorted to only on very extraordinary occasions. The relations existing between the United States and other Governments are stated to be generally on a satisfactory footing. With this country there is likely to be no serious misunderstanding, not even on the Nicaragua question; and the late *fracas* with France is treated as having been a matter of really very little importance.

The application of the people of California for admission to the Union as a sovereign state is recommended to the favourable consideration of Congress. A reduction of letter postage to five cents, without regard to distance, is recommended. The Message concludes with some appropriate remarks on the value of the Union, and the means of preserving it. "Whatever dangers may threaten it," says the President, "I shall stand by it and maintain it in its integrity, to the full extent of the obligations imposed, and the power conferred upon me by the Constitution."

Mr. Howell Cobb (Democrat) had been elected Speaker on the 22nd, by a majority of 102, against Mr. Winthrop's (Whig) 100.

General Cass had moved a suspension of relations with Austria. Advice from California to the 15th November represent gold as plentiful, but the rainy season had set in. The *Empire City* brought half a million of dollars to New York.

On the 24th of December Sir Henry Bulwer was presented to the President. All the members of the cabinet were present. The most cordial feelings were expressed respecting the peaceful relations of the two countries. The prevalent impression at Washington was, that the Honduras and Nicaraguan affair, the only one out of which any difficulty was likely to arise, would be settled by Lord Palmerston and Mr. Clayton respectively disavowing their agents.

The ravages of the Apaches continue in Chihuahua. Chagres and Panama were overrun with Americans going to and returning from California.

We learn from the New York papers that a stormy discussion had taken place in the Senate respecting the admission of Father Mathew to a seat in that Assembly, which was ultimately decided in his favour by 33 to 18.

CANADA.

The public attention in Canada is still occupied with Ministerial changes. Nothing new has occurred in the annexation movement.

CALIFORNIA.

An election was held on the 10th November, to decide on the adoption of the new constitution proposed for the state, and also to vote for a governor, lieutenant-governor, two representatives, and members of the California Legislature. The constitution has been adopted almost unanimously. Great activity was prevailing at San Francisco. Buildings were going up with great rapidity.

WEST INDIES.

Advices from Jamaica to the 17th ult. state that the Legislature was still in session, and had passed a bill giving the governor a salary of £4500. A memorial to the Queen to relieve the colony of the charge had been agreed on. Another bill had been brought in to raise an additional duty on imports.

The island was rather unhealthy, and there had been many cases of fever, some of which terminated fatally.

The latest dates from Porto-au-Prince (Hayti) are to the 8th of December. Further troubles were expected at the eastern end of the island, the Dominican

lament that their forefathers were not wise enough to know the great man they possessed amongst them. It were needless to multiply such instances. They are but too familiar to all who can read, and never fail to call forth the sincere regret of those who think that nations great in wealth, in power, and in intellect, ought to be great both in generosity and in justice. There ought to be no sum of £1200 set apart to pension those who have political influence, or who have devoted their pens to the service of a party; but there ought to be a discretionary power, vested in the Minister of the day, to reward, in the name of the nation, the man who has exalted literature without benefitting himself—whose power fails him in the day of calamity, or who has attained old age without attaining a certainty of bread. All such cases ought to be met as they arrive, without reference to £1200 or any other sum. This, and the chance of employment in departments for which their talents might qualify them, would not be too great a recognition of the claims of literature to the encouragement of a wise and educated people.

This, however, is not all that might be accomplished. Literary men have it in their power to help themselves more than they have ever done, and to acquire that *status* in society which is due to the pretensions of those who exercise an influence so remarkable and so general. In spite of their own want of cohesion—in spite of the fact, that, in a country where wealth and rank are the great objects striven for by the majority, they have most of them only used literature as a stepping-stone to ulterior things—and that they have pandered, against themselves, to the old prejudices, that literary men were mere quacks and pretenders on the one hand, or, on the other, that they were impracticable, and not to be trusted in affairs requiring tact and talent, rather than genius, to carry to completion—in spite of all these things, the tendency of opinion in our day is to exalt literature, and to overwhelm the literary man with popular applause. A popular author need not die before attaining his apotheosis: the multitude are but too anxious to shout in his train. Let literary men use the means at their command to cultivate this feeling in the people—to make literature a recognised profession, and to exclude from it, as jealously as the army, the navy, the law, the church, and medicine, the unworthy and the ignorant. Let them strive, in fine, for the incorporation of the literary co-fraternity; let them procure the seal of authority upon their efforts, like any other recognized profession, and they will do more than any government could do, however well disposed to aid them. The present time is not unpropitious for the attempt. The amiable Sovereign has literary sympathies, which she has evinced privately, in the most kindly and graceful manner. The Prince Consort has similar tastes; and there would be little or no difficulty in procuring the countenance of those illustrious personages to any well-considered and properly supported project of giving English literature such a *status* as its elevation to a corporate existence could afford. Why should there not be an English Institute of Literature—affiliation with which would of itself confer rank and distinction? It is no mean honour to be a member of the Academy or of the Institute of France. We know of nothing in the English character, or in the circumstances of literature and literary men, to prevent the institution of similar corporations amongst us.

MILITARY, NAVAL, AND COUNTY SERVICE CLUB,
ST. JAMES'S-STREET.

THIS Club was formed in November, 1848, by a committee of noblemen and officers of distinction; amongst whom we find, as patrons, his Majesty the King of Holland, his Grace the Duke of Leeds, Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Napier G.C.B.; Colonel the Earl of Cardigan, 11th Hussars; Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence, R.N.; the Right Hon. Shaw Lefevre, M.P., Speaker of the House of Commons; Lieutenant-General Sir Augustus De Butts, K.C.H., Colonel Commandant Royal Engineers; the Marquis of Donegal; Colonel the Hon. R. H. Clive, M.P.; Hon. Rice Trevor, M.P.; Colonel C. G. K. Tynte, M.P.; the Earl of Glengall; Viscount Castlereagh; the Marquis of Huntley, &c.

The Club admits to membership the lord and deputy lieutenants of counties; officers in the army and Royal Marines on full and half pay, officers in the Royal Navy and the Hon. East India Company's Navy on full and half pay, officers in the militia and yeomanry, officers in the Hon. East India Company's military service, officers retired from the Queen's regular, marine, and naval forces, the militia and yeomanry, and the Hon. East India Company's military and naval services.

The number of members is limited to 1500, of whom already more than half have been elected. One of the originators of the Club is Arthur Sleigh, Esq., late Lieutenant 77th Regiment, who is the Secretary.

The Club occupy the superb mansion, No. 50, St. James's-street, late Crookford's. We have engraved the grand drawingroom, a splendid apartment, with an entire frontage in St. James's-street, of fifty feet by forty wide. The style of decoration is that of Louis Quatorze. The ground-colour is azure; and the coving of the ceiling, and its panels, as well as the panel mouldings on the walls, are richly gilt. The door-frames and head-walls are also gilt; and above each is a painting *à la Watteau*, in a gilt scroll-work frame, as also above the pier-glasses, which are very large. The chimney-pieces are of marble, and above each is a lofty glass. The enrichments of masks, terminal heads, &c. throughout the room are heavily gilt; and from the centre of the ceiling hangs a large cut-glass chandelier. The carpet is of dark rich colours; and the furniture mahogany and morone morocco of first-rate manufacture, by Dowbiggin.

The other apartments of the Club, and approaches thereto, consist of a grand entrance hall, of scagliola marble, supported by marble pillars, with heavily-gilt capitals. The stone staircase ascends on two sides to the upper corridors, leading to the grand drawingroom, the writing or Blue-room, and the magazine and green drawingrooms. The cupola of the hall is profusely gilt, and partly filled with richly stained glass; from the apex, the arms of the Club form an upper cupola or lantern light, from the centre of which is suspended a large bronze and gold chandelier for gas.

In the lower entrance hall, right and left, are mahogany doors, leading to the coffee-rooms, each forty feet long by thirty feet wide, facing St. James's-street. To the right is the "members'" coffee-room; and to the left the "strangers'" where members are privileged, under certain restrictions, to invite their friends to dinner, &c. Behind the strangers' coffee-room is the house dinner-room, where once a week a dinner is provided for sixteen members.

From the grand drawingroom, heavily gilt doors lead on the right to the Blue-room, which is devoted exclusively to writing letters. The cornice in this room is one of the most superb and elegantly-designed pieces of carving in the house. The ceilings of the entire suite of drawingrooms are ornamented with bronze gilt, which tempers the more dazzling richness on the panellings.

Another gilt folding-door leads from the right into the octagonal green recess, a chaste apartment, with sunken mirrors in two angles, and a superb stained glass window in the centre. From this miniature apartment are three different doors, each richly gilt upon a light pink ground, which adds to the contrast with the panellings of the room, light green and gold.

The magazine-room adjoining is a beautiful apartment, with gilt mouldings, also on a green ground, with four superb mirrors, from the ground to the ceiling—two on either side. From the centre of the suite of apartments hang rich glass chandeliers.

The furniture of the rooms is of a superb description; the carpets were made (expressly for the Club) of the richest material; the curtains are of crimson pile velvet. A story has been added to the upper suite of rooms, in which are a smoking divan, billiard-room, complete dressing-rooms, &c. We need scarcely add, that the kitchens and cellars of the Club are on a complete and extensive scale.

LOLA MONTES AND HER HUSBAND.—The *Daily News* gives the following extract of a letter from Cadiz, Dec. 27:—"Lola Montes and Mr. Heald have been here for the last ten days. They came from Barcelona. She is much altered and aged, not so good-looking as when here in 1842. Her temper is not at all improved, and her delight seems to be to keep Heald in the greatest terror and dread of her. Heald made his escape, with his English servant, from the hotel Ismenex (where they were staying on Christmas morning), and is supposed to have gone to Gibraltar. Lola was furious. She went in a French steamer that evening with her two friends, foreigners, who are in her party, to Algiers, and sent Ismenex and another man by land; so that, if Heald does not succeed in getting on board the *Pacha*, she hopes to catch him. It is reported on good authority to-day, that Heald has embarked this morning on board the *Pacha*, and he will now be enabled to reach England in safety, and, no doubt, feels grateful to his aunt for all she has done for him." A weekly contemporary states that Mr. Heald has arrived in London, and put up at an hotel in Cork-street, Burlington-gardens.

On Saturday afternoon, two lads, named Smith and White, in the employment of Mr. Robinson, cigar manufacturer, Cross-lane, St. Dunstan's-hill (City), quarrelled, and grappled with each other. After a short struggle, White said, "If you don't let me go, I will stab you," and immediately fulfilled his threat, by stabbing Smith in the abdomen with a knife, which he took up from a bench. The wounded lad was taken to St. Thomas's Hospital, where he now lies, and White is in custody.

President Baez having issued a proclamation, under date of 17th of November, menacing the whole of the Haytian exports, which was followed by the burning and sacking of a small village called Jeremie. The Emperor was therefore making active preparations to march against St. Domingo. It was hoped, however, that the French Consul would mediate in the matter.

In Antigua the yellow fever had subsided, but not before it had proved fatal to nearly one-fifth of the garrison.

FROM WARSAW TO ST. PETERSBURG.

(By our own Correspondent.)

We will not loiter at Warsaw, though there is much to see in that ancient Polish capital. We leave it behind with its palaces, its churches, the statue of Sigmund and the memory of Sobieski.

All through Poland, both before arriving at Warsaw and after departing from it towards the Niemen, but chiefly in the former part, what principally arrests the attention is the portentous number of Jews; and Jews, too, who are many of them in a state of abject poverty. Yet, though many of them are poor, the greater number of Polish men of wealth are also of their community. Again, they here approach nearer than anywhere else to the state of territorial proprietorship. It is not that they are allowed actually to hold land in their own names and persons. But they do hold it virtually, by settling therein persons entirely in their debt and power; and then they superintend indirectly all agricultural operations, and monopolize the fruit of them directly. A singular thing it is, too, to observe how unabashed and almost ostentatious they are in displaying their *quiddity*, if your readers will forgive me a dialectical term long obsolete in common parlance. This singular people is hardly anywhere more disliked, and hardly anywhere less prone to hide itself or elude general recognition. Indeed, the Jews in Poland wear a distinctive costume, as well marked and known as a uniform could be. They do more, for, though I believe the Government taxes every Jewish beard, yet, lest even this superfluous blazon of their caste should be wanting to direct every eye, the very poorest of the Jews pay the tax sooner than not conform to the aspect of their own community, and the most timid of them put on this additional mark sooner than not brave and court inspection. The expenditure is curious in such misers—the bravado in such cowards.

From the bridge which spans the Vistula at Warsaw (one of the longest, if not the longest bridge in the world, but only a bridge of boats) to the western archway, under which you enter Petersburg, the distance is about eight hundred English miles—about double that, in fact, between London and Edinburgh. The road, which is sufficiently straight, and perfectly level for almost its whole length, is measured at, I think, twelve hundred versts. It is travelled by mail-coaches in summer, and by sledges after the snow has once covered the north-east of Europe with a thick layer—which layer lasts, indeed, full five months of the year. The sledge is infinitely the pleasanter mode of conveyance for the traveller, and, probably, for his horses too; but, as horses are not in the habit of writing tourists' impressions, the latter opinion, though based on good circumstantial evidence, wants direct oral testimony. No man, however, who has travelled in a sledge but will agree with me, that it is very agreeable, and far smoother than a railway carriage.

Between Warsaw and Petersburg, for the appliances of the regular mails and of incidental postage, some fourteen thousand horses, at a rough estimate, are kept along the road. If you travel by the mail, you have from four to six of these yoked to your vehicle each stage—sometimes as many as seven; and if the roads be very heavy with rains, even eight. If you use your own carriage, you of course hire as many horses as you think fit, and *as your passport may allow*. The horses are small, rough-coated, and hardy animals, of light action and great speed. The coachmen are capital drivers, especially on the Russian side of the Niemen; for almost every Russian learns the management of the horse, both in the box and in the saddle, from his childhood. I have said in the saddle; but a Russian will ride a horse bare-backed, with good command and mastery, if need be. The noble beast, which he so well understands, is to that degree abundant, moreover, in his country, that its price is, in the interior, almost nothing. The transport of the animal from Petersburg, for example, to England, often costs as much. It may easily be conceived from this, what facilities the Emperor possesses for the maintenance of that countless and irresistible cavalry, which is one of the arms of his mighty hosts.

Suppose, then, you start from Warsaw, before the sledge season begins, and during a time of very heavy rains, you will have a right tedious journey before you, and one that may last six days, travelling during the hours of light and dark without intermission. The Emperor, indeed, has traversed the distance in sixty hours, but then he travels as no man else does; and not only do some of the gallant beasts I have been praising die of the effects of the furious speed which the exigencies of his duties require, and which his glowing and ardent character craves, but even his very attendants (not endowed with the *white heat* of energy which he himself possesses) frequently drop off, one by one, to rest their aching limbs in some roadside hostelry; while he hurries on, untired, to the camp, or the council-chamber, in distant Poland.

Not pretending to such speed, and not possessing in truth the means of it at his disposal, an ordinary traveller will experience a very different rate of progression. As he proceeds, one of the first tokens of his steady advance will be the more frequent recurrence of the sweet Italian-like sound of the Russ tongue, in exchange for the harsh and jarring Polish. While in the neighbourhood of Warsaw, indeed, if he have a cold in the head, let him nurse it, to help by its sneezes (as the jocos but not groundless notion is) to pronounce the necessary words which indicate his wants. If he have no cold in the head, a pinch of snuff will occasionally enable him to articulate sardonically.

A flat country, with a meagre vegetation and sluggish agriculture, the former frequently ripened into rankness, and the latter wholly interrupted, by extensive fir-tree woods, conducts you in about two days to the Niemen, at Kovno. This is the frontier between the old Russian provinces and the new Polish papnage. A little farther down the broad and noble stream of the Niemen is the town of Tilsit, where Napoleon and Alexander met upon a raft to swear an eternal friendship that lasted so very short a while. That river is associated at once with the highest fortunes of the modern Caesar and with his downfall. The culminating splendours of the mystic star in which he trusted so superstitiously were reflected in those waters; and so was its fading light, as it shot aside from its prond orbit, to set for ever. Had he not passed that fatal stream, he might have died upon the throne of France, with a more distant boundary achieved, than any which Louis the Magnificent had ever as much as coveted. The French dominion would then have had a larger frontier traced in fact, than the proudest of its former sovereigns had ever ventured to trace for it in their most ambitious desires or their wildest dreams. Probable it is, that, when Napoleon, just before that astounding effort of military genius, which the French fondly term "the campaign of miracles," rejected with disdain the proffered boundary of the Rhine, exclaiming, "What! do they take me for a Louis XIV.?"—it is, we say, probable that the great warrior's thoughts reverted to the Niemen; which, because he had once passed it, he was doomed never to possess, and which, for the very same reason, he never could bear to surrender. If, in 1813, the soldiers he had left under the snows of Russia, had been still beneath his eagles, neither could so immense a host have been marshalled against him at Leipzig, nor twice as numerous a force have beaten him there.

But to return. At Kovno, the monotony of the landscape is suddenly broken into a scene beautiful to behold. The banks of the river rise into rugged hills, higher on the Russian side, and thickly wooded on both. The town of Kovno is on the water's edge, beyond the river. The Greek churches, with their five spires, their oblique crosses, and, above all, the novelty and strangeness of their painted roofs, strike the eye of the traveller from the West with a peculiar charm.

While admiring the beautiful aspect of a scene full of chasms and ravines, of rocks, woods, and waves, and the effect of strange buildings, and even of the sudden presence of a numerous and busy population, after the lonely and dreary influence of the country you have just traversed, a curious perplexity occurs to the mind. The horses bear your conveyance at a gallop down to the very water's edge; and there, while your passports are being examined, you suddenly perceive that, far as the eye can sweep up and down the river (and the prospect is of considerable range in both directions), no bridge whatever—not even a bridge of boats—is to be seen. While you are musing how they mean to transport across the water your own and several other heavy vehicles, with numerous horses which you observe hard by, a vast raft is seen floating over the river. In the centre of the latter, a little way up the current, several small boats and buoys, firmly anchored, support a cable, one end of which is fastened to the raft. This cable is pulled; the raft is drawn forcibly into the middle of the stream, and, of course, towards the boats and buoys (or, in other words, *against* the current). When the raft has arrived in line of the anchored towage in question, the impetus and momentum of the original motion is, of course, by no means spent; the cable is then suddenly loosened and lengthened; the force of the current meets the force of the transverse momentum, and the effect of the two forces is so nicely calculated, that the raft is swayed off, in an oblique direction, and arrives within half an inch of the same spot on the opposite bank every trip. At that spot a pier is built. For re-crossing the river, the same precise process is reversed. Thus I passed the Niemen.

On the opposite side another custom-house examination takes place. It was now about three o'clock; and, as the mail was not to resume the journey onward till eight, there was plenty of time for washing, shaving, and those other refreshments, for some of which there is no provision at all on the road, and for others, inadequate provision.

Even already, on this very edge and threshold of Russia, there is decided improvement upon the state of things observable in Poland. An air of greater cleanliness and greater thrift prevails.

On the ground-floor of a kind of inn into which I was shown, several large and lofty rooms open into each other without doors, the spaces only for doors being there. In one of these rooms I dined; in another there was a billiard-table, at which several Russian officers of inferior rank were playing. Before I had finished my wine, a man with a guitar, a woman with a harp, and a child with limbs which she could twist into unheard-of convolutions, entered and performed some music and gymnastics respectively. After this, the woman went round with a plate for money; and the child, with her little hard brown palm, for money too. They were all three Germans—probably from Riga, which is of German population, though subject to the Emperor Nicholas's pleasure and goodwill. The child silently kissed the wrist of every one who gave her the expected fee.

It was now nearly eight o'clock, and I took my seat in the mail carriage. Out of a host of Jews, who were loungers and business-seekers, one had seized me from the moment I had alighted, and had acted as half-guide half-cicerone. As he spoke, however, only Russian and Polish, he was not very intelligible.

COUNTRY NEWS.

MR. COBDEN IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

On Wednesday evening the County-hall in Aylesbury was crowded with an audience composed of farmers, labourers, and townspeople, to hear from Mr. Cobden his opinions on the present crisis of the national affairs.

The honourable gentleman, after some prefatory remarks, said—I stand here to maintain that, by any test that can proclaim the prosperity or adversity of a nation, we stand better now without the Corn-laws than we did when we had them. (No, no.) I say by every test, and I am glad to see some dissentients from that proposition here. * * * What are the tests of a national prosperity? A declining or an improving revenue is our test. Well, our revenue is better now than it was under the Corn-law. (Cheers.) Our exports and imports are better than they were under the Corn-law. (Cheers.) Then take the question of pauperism; and I won't shrink from that test of pauperism even in an agricultural district. I have the statistics of many of our unions in Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire; and I warn the Protectionist orators, who are going about persuading themselves that they have a case in the matter of pauperism, that when Parliament meets, and Mr. Baines is enabled to bring forward his Poor-law statistics up to the last week of the year—for it won't do to give us only the accounts from the blue-books for last year—(loud cheers)—I warn the Protectionists that, in the case of pauperism, even the Aylesbury districts stand more favourably now, with bread at a moderate price, than they did in 1847, when prices were high and the loaf was nearly double its present rate. Now, take the condition of wages, which is the test of the state of the great mass of the people. What are the people earning now, compared with what they earned in 1847, when the Protectionists were so well satisfied with the high prices? As a rule, throughout the country, more money is being earned now in every branch of business than at the former period; and the working people are getting the comforts and necessities of life in many cases at two-thirds of the prices of 1847. (A voice—"Agricultural labourers.") I will come to the Agriculturalists by-and-by; but what I want is, that you should agree at the outset that the agricultural labourers are not the nation. (A laugh, and "They must be reckoned.") And, if agriculture be an exception to the general rule, we must find out the reason why it is so.

I say that in every branch of business the state of wages is improved. You may say agriculture is an exception; but I do not make an exception of any trade in your district—not even trades employing women. (Cheers.) I have made inquiries, and I find that in the business of straw-plaiting, which is carried on extensively in Bucks and Beds, many who, in 1847, when bread was double its present price, did not earn 15s. a week, now in many cases earn 25s. at straw-plaiting. ("No, no," and "Yes, yes.") I know this is true, because I have it from some of the most extensive manufacturers, who are now present in this hall. (Cheers.) Then, again, there is the pillow-lace trade, in which is employed a great number of women in Bucks, and I am delighted to find their wages also have increased since 1847, and they are getting bread two-thirds cheaper. Why, even the poor chairmakers in this neighbourhood—a trade that hardly knows what it is to have a revival—are becoming more busy, and their wages are improving. (Cheers.) In fact, I repeat that, without exception, there is not a trade that has not gained some advantage from the moderate price at which food is now obtained. (Cheers.) But now I want to come to a question that interests you in this immediate neighbourhood, and it is this—if every other great interest in the state is reviving, and nobody denies it, how is it that agriculture is depressed? (Hear.) That is the question. (Cheers.) How is it that the interests of agriculture are found in antagonism to the interests of the rest of the community? Why, it is because they have been under a false system—(Cheers)—they have been on an unsound basis. (Cheers.) They have been reckoning upon Act of Parliament prices, and upon those prices they have made their arrangements and calculations; but now they must, like every other trade, be content with natural prices. (Cheers.) What is the reason they cannot thrive as well as other trades? We find meetings called, purporting to be meetings of farmers, at which they complain of distress; and what are their remedies for that distress? Are they to go and talk like men of business to their landlords, and ask for fresh arrangements, in order that they may have the land—the raw material of their trade—at natural prices, and free from those absurd restrictions which prevent them from getting a proper return for that material? Do they meet to talk in that common-sense strain to their landlords? No; you never see a meeting but there is either a landlord or a landlord's agent in the chair, not talking as landlords and agents, but as farmers and for farmers. And what do they say? They tell you, "You must go to Parliament and get an act to raise the price of corn, in order that you may be able to pay us our rents." That is what it amounts to. Now, what ought to be the plan pursued by the landlords and the tenants? The landlord, as Mr. Disraeli properly observed at Marlow, is an individual who has land, which is a raw material and nothing more, to dispose of. The farmer is the capitalist who offers to take this raw material, that he may work it up and make a profit out of it. In fact, the farmer and the landowner stand in precisely the same relation to each other as the cotton spinner and the cotton merchant. The cotton spinner buys his raw material, the cotton wool, from the cotton merchant, in order to spin it up at a profit. If he can obtain the raw material in abundance and cheaply, he gets a profit; but if it is at a high rate, he cannot make a profit. But you never hear of the cotton spinner or the cotton merchant petitioning Parliament for a law to keep up the price of cotton. (A laugh.) Now, I declare, when I hear of the landlord and the tenant running about together and raising the cry of Protection, and calling upon Parliament to interfere to raise the price of corn, I cannot help feeling humiliated at the spectacle, because it is a proof of the want of intelligence in the one, and want of honesty, I fear, in the other. (Cheers.) Suppose you saw a crowd of men driving up and down the streets of Aylesbury shouting out "Protection!—oh, give us Protection! we are all rowing in the same boat!" and you inquired what the crowd was about, and were told that they were all the grocers of Aylesbury and their customers, and that they were crying out for a law that should raise the price of all the hogsheds of sugar in the grocers' stores—(laughter)—would you not say that it was a very curious combination, and stranger still that they should assert that they were rowing in the same boat? Would you not say at once that the interests of the grocers who owned the hogsheds could not be the same with those of their customers in respect to a law for raising the price of sugar? (Cheers.) And yet, that is precisely the position of the landlord and the tenant-farmer. ("No, no," and cheers.) Let those gentlemen who dispute it come on the platform and answer me when I sit down. (Cheers.) The plan I would recommend the tenant-farmers to adopt towards their landlords is precisely the same course that was pursued by my own tenants and myself. (Cheers.)

The hon. gentleman explained that course to be the destruction of hares, rabbits, and other game that eat up in a great measure the produce of field and garden; and the readjustment of the rents upon a lower scale, to suit the present reduced price of corn, while he obtained a guarantee from the tenants that their farms should be well and judiciously cultivated. Since that arrangement, satisfactory to both parties alike, his tenants felt they had no interest in the Protection movement, being prepared to meet Free-Trade prices.

At the close of the hon. gentleman's address, a resolution was adopted, denouncing all idea of a return to Protection, and laying it down that the distress of the agricultural classes is only to be remedied by a more equitable adjustment of the relations existing between tenants and their landlords; and that, to produce that result, it is necessary that the people at large should have a more extended control over their representatives in Parliament.

The Right Hon. Charles S. Lefevre (the Speaker of the House of Commons) was unanimously elected chairman of the Hants quarter sessions last week, in the room of Sir W. Heathcote, Bart., who retired from bad health. The Marquis of Winchester and Sir J. Pollen, Bart., proposed and seconded the right hon. gentleman.

THE MANCHESTER SAVINGS-BANK.—Mr. Pratt has recently visited the Manchester Savings-Bank, and spent some time in the examination of its counter business, as well as the mode adopted of keeping the books, and checking the daily entries. He has since addressed a letter to Mr. G. E. Marsden, the deputy chairman of the bank, in which he says that he has no hesitation in expressing his opinion that the different checks in operation, and the mode of conducting business generally (under Mr. Neild, the actuary), are a sufficient guarantee, not only to the depositors, but also to the trustees and managers. He suggests, however, that the auditor or accountant engaged should be directed to attend once or twice a month, and examine, with the ledgers, in the manner which he had himself done, the books which might be produced by the depositors on the day or night of his attendance. If this were practised, he was confident no fraud could be committed, or, even if it were so, the discovery would be immediate.

SAVINGS-BANK DEFAULTER.—The depositors of the savings-bank in Aylesbury have been caused the greatest anxiety and consternation in consequence of the absconding of Mr. Henry Stratton, clerk to Mr. James James, solicitor, who is the secretary to the bank. It is feared that Stratton, who has sailed for America, is a defaulter to no small amount.

RIOT AT BARIAM UNION WORKHOUSE, SUFFOLK.—CALLING OUT OF THE MILITARY.—A serious case of insubordination among the paupers in this poor-law union workhouse, situated near Ipswich, took place on Monday last. There were altogether 354 inmates in the house, and on Sunday evening, after the supper had been served out, fifty-eight of the able-bodied men demanded to see Mr. Howard, the governor, which was granted, when they demanded more food. Mr. Howard assured them that they had had all the regulations allowed, and that he could not give them any more. After some persuasion they retired from the governor's office. On reaching the day-room, they commenced demolishing the place, tearing down the forms, and throwing the burning coals from the grate under the flooring, evidently with an intention of setting the place on fire. The governor, with his officers, resolutely attacked them, and at bed-time got them to retire, with the exception of about twenty. These, however, did no further damage that night. At seven o'clock on Monday morning they renewed their violence, breaking into the various wards, arming themselves with sticks and bludgeons, and eventually taking complete possession of the workhouse. The governor and his officers were obliged to seek refuge in the front hall, where they locked and barred themselves in. The magisterial authorities, hearing of the outbreak, dispatched a body of police to the spot, and called out a detachment of the 25th Lancers, quartered at Ipswich barracks. Before they arrived, the women had joined the other party, and had demolished upwards of 200 panes of glass. The disturbance was not quelled till two o'clock in the afternoon, when all the ringleaders were apprehended and committed to prison.

METROPOLITAN NEWS

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

COLLEGE OF PRECEPTORS.—The members and friends of this institution held their general half-yearly meeting at 28, Bloomsbury-square, on Saturday morning. The chair was taken at one o'clock, by Dr. Hodgson, principal of the High School, Chorlton, near Manchester. The Rev. Dr. Wilson, the Dean, made a few brief remarks on the nature of the examination of the candidates, who upon this occasion consisted of seventeen gentlemen and two ladies. According to the opinion of Mr. Hild, the senior moderator, there was every reason to be satisfied with the attainments of the candidates in mathematics. He animadverted upon the absurdities of most elementary treatises on arithmetic. After some further observations of an apposite character from Dr. Wilson, the chairman proceeded to deliver the certificates to the successful candidates. It appeared from the financial statement that the receipts during the year (including a balance in hand of £20 18s. 7d.) amounted to £939 4s.; the sum due to the college, £604 19s.; making a total of £1565 1s. 7d. The amount paid out, £922 7s. 1d. Sum due by the college, £502 9s. Balance in favour of the college, £140. On the motion that the report be received and adopted, Mr. Freeman, one of the auditors, complained of the great difficulty he experienced in reference to the accounts, and he therefore begged to be allowed to retire from the office of auditor. The society were in debt to the amount of £502, and it appeared that amongst the members there were defaulters, whose liabilities to the institution amounted to £604 19s. This was a state of things which ought not to exist, and it was impossible that the society could go on prosperously unless the members exerted themselves towards the support of the funds. A discussion then took place respecting the difficulty in which the college was placed in consequence of the non-payment of a sum of money which had been borrowed to defray the expenses of obtaining the charter. It was moved:—"That a circular be addressed to all the members of the college, calling their attention to the condition of the charter fund." This motion was not put, and ultimately a resolution, in more general terms, was proposed and adopted. It was to this effect:—"That all those who had been above twelve months in arrears be written to by the secretary, stating the circumstances in which the college was placed by their neglect of payment." A statement was read, from which it appeared that the amount received on the charter fund was £269 8s. 6d., added to which £200 had been borrowed from Mr. Heath. These two sums added together made a total of £469 8s. 6d., out of which they had paid for fees at the various Government offices £364 4s.

St. GILES'S RAGGED SCHOOL.—A meeting of the supporters of this school was held on Monday evening, at the Music-Hall, Store-street, to receive the annual report. The chair was taken by the Hon. and Rev. H. M. Villiers. There were also present many of the clergy and others. The rev. chairman having urged upon the meeting the necessity of aiding the committee in their endeavour to erect a school in Bloomsbury-street, for the building of which a large sum was yet required, the report was read. It set forth the improved condition, during the last year, of the children connected with the school: 350 boys attended; at the Sunday female schools the average attendance was 65 in the day, and 48 in the evening. The provident fund, from 39 depositors, amounted to £15 0s. 8d. Two lads had been apprenticed, and several girls were put out to service, of whom severally a good report had been received. Four boys and two girls had been sent out as emigrants, making a total of 18 forwarded from the schools by the committee to Australia. The boys receive there from 10s. to 12s. a week. Towards the new building £448 13s. 2d. had been received; and Mr. Peto, M.P., had promised that when there was a probability of purchasing a freehold site, he would subscribe 100 guineas, and be an annual subscriber of five guineas. The committee are in treaty with the Commissioners of Woods and Forests for an area in Bloomsbury-street, St. Giles's. A sum of £900 was necessary to effect the purchase.

BUILDERS' CHARITABLE INSTITUTION.—A general meeting of the members of this institution took place on Thursday evening, at the Freemasons' Tavern; Mr. Sharp presiding. The report stated that Mr. Grey, one of the presidents of the institution, had given a donation of £100, having previously given 100 guineas to the building fund. Mr. J. H. Peacock (formerly the proprietor of the London Tavern) had also bequeathed in his will the sum of £5500, to be equally divided between fifty-five charities. The treasurer's account showed an income of £2558. The expenditure was £2134, leaving a balance of £424. The report was unanimously adopted, and the vice-presidents and committee for the ensuing year elected. A statement of the affairs of the building fund, in connexion with this charity, was then given, and a vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business of the evening.

WATER SUPPLY TO THE PARISH OF HAMSTEAD.—A very numerous and influential meeting of the inhabitants of Hampstead was held at Jack Straw's Castle, on Thursday evening—the Rev. P. Ainger (Vicar of Hampstead) in the chair—to consider the best means of obtaining an efficient supply of water to the various dwellings situated in this respectable and wealthy parish; when it was resolved—"That, having heard the statements of the promoters of the London (Watford) Spring Water Company, and having learned that all applications to existing water companies had been unsuccessful, the meeting were of opinion that an abundant supply of pure water to the inhabitants of Hampstead would confer substantial benefits upon them, and therefore the project mentioned was deserving of their warm support." A vote of thanks to the rev. chairman concluded the proceedings.

THE LONDON DISPENSARY.—This excellent charity, during the year that has just closed, relieved no less than 2244 persons who were admitted, only 68 of whom died. It likewise relieves poor persons at their own homes, in one of the most destitute parts of the metropolis, viz. Spitalfields. The funds of the charity require replenishing. The Clothworkers' Company have given a donation of £10 10s., and some of the other larger companies, we believe, are about to follow their example.

RELEASE OF VERNON, THE CHARTIST LEADER.—On Friday, in consequence of a communication received by Lieutenant Tracy, the Governor of the House of Correction, Tothill-fields, from the Home-office, intimating that her Majesty had been pleased to extend her pardon to Vernon, the Chartist leader, who was convicted in June, 1848, with Ernest Jones, Fussell, and others, of sedition, and sentenced by Chief Justice Wilde to two years' imprisonment, with other penalties, and ordering his immediate liberation, he was at once set at liberty. During his incarceration Vernon's conduct received the warm approval of the authorities, and it is understood that the sentences on other Chartist prisoners will be mitigated.

BENEVOLENCE.—On Monday next, the sum of £75 will be distributed amongst the poor of Chelsea in the following manner:—To two deserving housekeepers, £30; to 280 distressed parishioners, one quarter loaf each; to two of the most deserving children in the parish charity school, to apprentice them, £28; to 40 of the next best children of the school, £4; to the clergyman, for examining the children and preaching to them afterwards, £2; to the organist, for playing on the occasion, £1 10s.; and other minor gifts. The sum thus to be distributed is the dividend of £2500, given by Mr. Luke Thomas Flood, an old and respectable magistrate and inhabitant of Chelsea, to be appropriated in a similar manner on the 13th of January for ever, unless that day happens to be Sunday.

BATHS AND WASHHOUSES IN ST. MARGARET'S AND ST. JOHN'S, WESTMINSTER.—On Tuesday several houses situated in Ann-street and Peter-street, Westminster, in pursuance of directions from the Commissioners of Baths and Washhouses for the parishes of St. Margaret and St. John's, were sold by auction, for the purpose of being removed to form the site on which it is intended to erect baths and washhouses for that district. There are to be 60 baths, and as many washing and ironing departments. There will also be two plunging baths, each above 40 feet in length, and from about 4 feet to 5 feet 8 inches in depth. The commissioners have purchased the area for the building, and in a few days the select vestry will meet to empower them to borrow £9500, in order to carry the object into effect.

SKATING IN THE PARKS.—Though the ice was but very thin on Sunday last, the number of skaters in all the Parks was very great, and there were numerous immersions. One of a fatal character occurred in the Serpentine, where a respectably attired young man, who was skating on the south side, near the aqueduct, broke in, and became immersed in twelve feet of water. Superintendent Murphy and iceman Deze immediately proceeded to his assistance, but he was not got out until he had been for full four minutes under water, and was quite dead. The body was conveyed to the Royal Humane Society's receiving-house, where prompt remedies were applied by the surgeons, but, unfortunately, without effect. The body was then removed by the parochial authorities to await the inquest, and also to be owned. The name of the deceased was Thomas Drayton, and he was in the employ of Messrs. Chalton and Easton, tea-dealers, Charing-cross.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—Births registered in the week ending Jan. 5:—Males, 816; females, 726; total, 1542. Deaths during the same period:—Males, 587; females, 555; total, 1132. In the first week of ten previous years (1840-49) the deaths ranged from 869 to 1310; and the average of the ten corresponding weeks, raised according to increase of population, which is estimated at 1.55 per cent. annually, is 1252. As compared with deaths registered weekly in last December, the present return exhibits an increase of nearly 100. The mortality from bronchitis has increased in two weeks from 78 deaths to 103, while that from pneumonia has increased from 69 to 95; the averages of the two diseases in the same week of ten previous years are 57 and 104. From phthisis there were 129 deaths, which is slightly under the corrected average. From small-pox there were only 8; in the ten corresponding weeks of 1840-49, this epidemic ranged from 5 to 86. Hooping-cough, which was fatal to 23 children, is also under the usual number. Measles, scarlatina, and typhus produce nearly the ordinary amount of mortality; but all the five epidemics, with the exception of measles, are now much less fatal than in the same week of last year. The daughter of a labourer, aged six years, died at Scott's Cottages, Shepherd's Bush, on the 31st of December, of "marasmus after cholera," after an illness of six months' duration. From diarrhoea there were only 8 deaths; but 6, which is rather more than usual, occurred from dysentery; 125 deaths were registered last week as having occurred in the workhouses of London, and 94 in hospitals. Seven old pensioners, whose ages ranged from 62 to 82 years, died at Greenwich, between the 28th of December and the 1st of January, inclusive.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.—The daily mean reading of the barometer at Greenwich was above 30 inches on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The mean of the week was 29.867 inches. The mean temperature was lower than the average of seven years on every day except Thursday and Friday; on the latter it rose 7 deg. above the average of that day. The mean temperature, which was 43 deg. on Friday, fell to 34 deg. on Saturday. The mean of the week was 35 deg.

THE CHARTISTS AND THE PROTECTIONISTS.

On Monday evening, the first of a series of meetings was held in the hall of the Edinbro' Castle, Stepney, intended to afford tradesmen, and mechanics, and working men of every grade, an opportunity of agreeing to resolutions in favour of protection to native industry. The meeting was called by the London Trades Delegates. At half-past seven o'clock (the hour of commencing business) the spacious hall was completely filled with working men. Among those on the platform were Mr. G. F. Young, Mr. Richard Oastler, Dr. Brookes, Mr. Fokett, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Delaforce, and others of the trades delegates. Mr. G. F. Young (the shipowner) occupied the chair; and, having opened the proceedings by an exposition of the advantages of Protection, the first resolution was proposed as follows:—

That, as labour is the source of all wealth, it evidently follows that the prosperity and independence of Great Britain and her colonies will be best promoted by employing and protecting the greatest number of a healthy, industrious, intelligent, and moral population, who can be educated and comfortably maintained by their own industry; and, therefore, in the opinion of this meeting, it is the first and most important duty of the British Legislature and her Majesty's Government, to adopt such measures as will best secure employment to every one of the population, and for their labour an abundance of the necessities and comforts of life.

Mr. Clarke (Chartist) claimed to be heard. He denounced the proposal to restore the Protectionists to power, a party which had shown itself to be inimical to public liberty, had allied itself with despotism, and had robbed the people under the pretext of protecting them. (Applause.) He moved an amendment leaving out the word "protecting" in the first part of the motion, and all the latter clause, substituting a declaration to the effect that the advantages sought for could only be obtained, not by further legislative interference with industry, but by the removal of all remaining impediments to the free exercise of industry, by reducing taxation, by the repeal of the law of primogeniture and entail, and by a system of Parliamentary reform, which would confer the franchise upon the male population. (Cheers.)

The chairman then introduced Mr. Oastler as the friend of the working classes, but the meeting refused to hear him; and as he declined to withdraw, the evening was spent in ineffectual attempts to speak from the platform, interrupted by roars, cheers, hisses, and all the sounds of a menagerie.

The chairman having refused to put Mr. Clarke's amendment, his adherents elected a chairman, and the amendment was then put and carried amidst immense applause, and the meeting was declared to be dissolved.

Shortly afterwards all parties withdrew, Mr. Young declaring the show of hands to be in favour of an adjournment.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

TRAGIC AFFAIR.

On Monday, Samuel Grieves Harvey, a tall powerful man, was indicted for assaulting James Dodsley Tawney.

Mr. J. D. Tawney, the prosecutor, whose arm was in a sling, and who appeared to be suffering severely, was then examined. He deposed that he was an attorney, and knew the defendant, who was a horse-dealer at Rugby, and frequently saw him at the stables of Messrs Osborn and Co., in Gray's-inn-lane, where witness was in the habit of putting up his horses. In June last, Messrs. Tattersall gave him instructions to proceed against the defendant to recover a sum of £8 13s. He at first denied owing the money, but afterwards promised to pay it, and made appointments to do so, but never kept them, and witness was compelled to issue a writ against him; but, at the request of the defendant, he forbore to serve it upon him at Rugby, in order to save expense, and he at this time offered to take the amount of the debt without any costs. The defendant did not pay the money, and judgment was obtained on the 2nd of August, and shortly afterwards the defendant gave notice of his intention to apply to the Insolvent Court, and witness was instructed to oppose him on behalf of several creditors. On the 3rd of November witness was at Messrs Osborn's stables, and saw the defendant in the counting-house, and he accused him with getting up the opposition to his discharge. Witness replied, that other creditors besides those for whom he appeared intended to oppose him, and the defendant then inquired the names of the creditors who instructed him to oppose, but he declined to give them. The defendant then went out, and returned in a short time with two hunting-whips, one of which was loaded at the end with iron, and the other a plain cane one. The defendant offered him the latter, saying, "Take that." He declined doing so, and the defendant went out, and witness waited a short time, thinking he would go away. He then went towards his gig, which had been waiting for him, and observed the defendant standing with the heavy hunting-whip in his hand; and as he was about to get into his gig he attacked him behind, and beat him on the back and shoulders in the most violent manner. He then tried to beat him on the head, but witness held up his hands and warded off the blows. Mr. Banks, one of the partners, came up, and laid hold of the defendant, and said to him, "Good God, Harvey, are you mad?" but the defendant threw him away from him, and continued his violence. He had just succeeded in getting into the gig when the defendant struck him on the back of the head, and the blow stunned him for a moment, and his horse ran off, but was stopped by some cabmen in the King's-road. He was taken very ill the same night, and was still suffering from the injuries he received. The prosecutor added, that the defendant was perfectly well aware at the time he made the attack upon him that he was suffering from disease of the heart, as they had frequently conversed upon the subject.

The prosecutor, who had given his evidence with great difficulty, and who was evidently in a state of great excitement and suffering, having replied to one or two questions that were put to him by Mr. Ballantine, was about to retire from the witness-box, when he seemed in an instant to lose all power, and fell senseless in the arms of some persons who stood near him. He was laid upon the floor of the court, and Mr. Clayton, the surgeon, who examined his injuries after the occurrence, and another medical gentleman, who was accidentally present, immediately attended upon and used their utmost exertions to restore him, but he was found to be fast sinking.

The Jury, meanwhile, returned a verdict of "Guilty" on the charge against the defendant; and

The Recorder, addressing him, said, that at present he should not pass sentence upon him, because, in the condition of the prosecutor, it was uncertain what the result would be; and if his death were to take place, and it was found to have been accelerated by the violence he had made use of towards him, he would undoubtedly be called upon to answer a much higher charge.

Just as the learned Judge had concluded, a sensation of horror was excited in the court by the announcement by one of the medical gentlemen that the unfortunate prosecutor had expired. The excitement had been too much for him, and he lay a lifeless corpse at the foot of the witness-box, where, a few minutes previously, he had been giving his evidence.

The Recorder then gave directions that the prisoner should be detained, to answer any charge that might be preferred against him, arising out of the death of the unfortunate prosecutor; and the body of the deceased was placed in a cab, to be conveyed to his residence, the solicitor for the prosecution accompanying it, to convey the sad intelligence to his relatives.

On Thursday, Sarah Drake, aged 36, was indicted for the wilful murder of her illegitimate child, Lewis Drake, by suffocating it. The indictment having been proved by the evidence adduced, the defence set up by counsel was, that the dreadful crime laid to the prisoner's charge was contrary to all female instinct, and the only reasonable and just construction to be put upon it, therefore, was, that it was committed by the prisoner in a moment of frenzy, distraction, and despair. No medical testimony was brought in support of this defence. Mr. Justice Patteson summed up the case to the Jury, telling them that, with respect to the suggestion of temporary insanity, it could never be a just conclusion to infer insanity from the atrocity of a crime. The Jury retired to consider their verdict; and, after being absent about a quarter of an hour, returned into Court, and gave a verdict of "Not Guilty," on the ground of temporary insanity. The prisoner fainted away on the announcement of the verdict. Mr. Justice Patteson directed the prisoner to be confined during her Majesty's pleasure.

REFORM BANQUET AT WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.

For some time past, there has been in New Zealand a growing desire for the introduction of Representative Institutions into the colony; and a petition to Parliament was got up for this purpose, with great alacrity, in the spring of last year. To celebrate this event, a public demonstration, in the shape of a "Reform Banquet," took place on the evening of Thursday, March 1, in the Theatre, at Wellington, and proved to be a most numerous gathering. Nearly two hundred guests sat down to a sumptuous dinner prepared by Mr. Rowland Davis. The chair was taken by Mr. J. Dorset, at a little after six o'clock, when the *coup d'œil* was most imposing. On the stage was the chairman's table, from which three tables extended lengthwise towards the footlights, and were continued through the entire length of the area below. The front of the boxes, and the surmounting cornice, were decorated with stars of variegated lamps, which had a brilliant effect. The stage was embellished with flags, evergreens, &c. A new scene, painted by Mr. Marriott, expressly for the occasion, tapestried the wall behind the chair; representing a Roman arch, flanked by columns, and surmounted by figures of Justice and Victory. The whole of the theatre and the staircase leading to the stage were hung with chandeliers of lights, whose brilliance showed to great advantage the newly-decorated walls. The tables were supplied with the best wines to be found in the colony. An excellent amateur band was in attendance, and several songs were sung by Mr. Pickett, Mr. Powell, and other gentlemen. After dinner the chairman proposed the health of her Majesty, and the band responded with "God Save the Queen." Then followed the customary loyal toasts of Prince Albert and the Royal Family; the Army and Navy; his Excellency Sir George Grey; and his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor; all which were drunk with the usual honours. The toastmaster then gave "Representative Institutions, and their immediate introduction." Received with tremendous cheering, which lasted some minutes. Dr. Featherston then addressed the company, and concluded by saying that he regarded the question of the day as one of expediency; and glancing at the history of the American colonies, showed that the amount of prosperity of any single colony had ever been in proportion to the degree of self-government enjoyed by it. The Doctor then urged his hearers to look at the rapid strides New South Wales had made since Representative Government had been conferred on the country—to the increase of her material wealth—to the



REFORM BANQUET IN THE THEATRE, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

still more remarkable change in her social, moral, and intellectual aspect—to remember with what feelings of horror and repugnance that colony was a few years since regarded by all classes of England; and to consider what numbers of men of the highest character and intelligence now resorted to it, and the talent they brought to bear on every question in their Assembly. Dr. Featherston concluded by saying, that the course they had uniformly pursued in regard to this question—the presence of so many at that Banquet—the petition having received the signatures of more than nine-tenths of the whole male adult population—afforded sufficient proof that their zeal in the good cause had not abated, and that they were more determined than ever not to relax in their per-

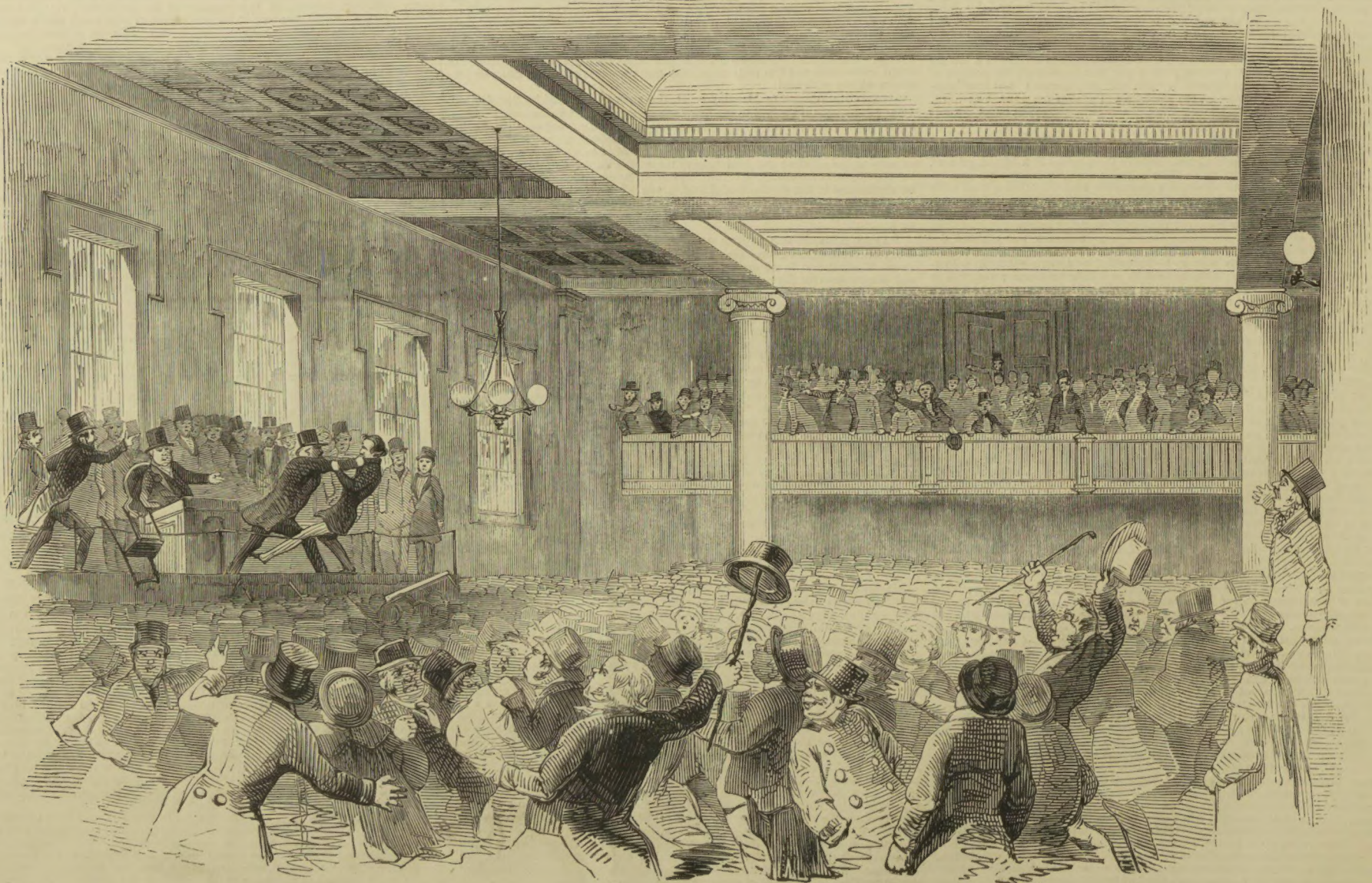
sent exertions until they had conferred representative institutions upon this, their adopted country. The speaker was loudly cheered throughout his address, and sat down amidst protracted applause.

Mr. Vincent then, in a speech wherein he strongly attacked the Government, proposed "The healths of the gentlemen who declined seats in the Nominee Council," viz. W. Fox, Esq., J.P., Principal Agent of the New Zealand Company; A. McDonald, Esq., J.P.; Dr. Featherston; Captain Daniells, J.P.; J. Johnston, Esq.; K. Bethune, Esq.; and F. A. Weld, J.P., Esq. The toast was drunk with musical honours. Dr. Featherston replied.

Mr. Fox next proposed "The Education of all classes," which was heartily

responded to. Mr. J. Wade gave "The Liberty of the Press;" and Mr. Brandon, "Auckland, and the Sister Settlements." Mr. W. Dorset then proposed "The health of Sir William Molesworth, and success to the Petition entrusted to his charge;" which was drunk with enthusiasm. The next toast, "Earl Grey and her Majesty's Ministers," was given by Mr. Kilham, and drunk most cordially. This was followed by "The New Zealand Company," and a variety of other toasts associated with the interests of the colony; and the party did not break up until a late hour.

The accompanying illustration is from a sketch taken by Mr. Marriott, whose artistic skill in the decoration of the theatre we have already mentioned.



PROTICIONIST MEETING AT LINCOLN.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



HOMERIC TABLE (THE SHIELD OF ACHILLES).—DESIGNED BY JOHN HENNING, JUN., ESQ., FOR THE GALLERY OF THE RIGHT, HON. LORD NORTHWICK.

THE GREAT SEAL OF CALIFORNIA.

We are enabled by the courtesy of a Correspondent to present our readers with the accompanying authentic representation of the Great Seal of the State of California, as adopted by the Convention held at San Francisco on the 5th of October last. It was designed by Major R. S. Garnett, of the United States army. It seems that each region wished to be represented in the Seal. The Sacramento district wanted a gold mine, with a miner at work; San Francisco, its harbour and shipping; the Sonoma members thought no seal would be complete without something from their ancient "bear-flag;" whilst those from Los Angeles and San Diego were clamorous for their corn, vines, and olives. These several requirements have been met, as far as possible, in the accompanying design.

Around the bevel of the ring are represented thirty-one stars, being the number of the states of which the Union will consist, upon the admission of California. The foreground figure represents the goddess Minerva, having sprung full-grown from the brain of Jupiter. She is introduced as a type of the political birth of California, without having gone through the probation of a territory. At her feet crouches a grisly bear, feeding upon clusters from a grape-vine, which, with a sheaf of wheat, are emblematic of the peculiar characteristics of the country. A miner is engaged at work, with a rocker and bowl at his side, illustrating the golden wealth of the Sacramento, upon whose waters are seen shipping, typical of commercial greatness; and the snow-clad peaks of the Sierra Nevada make up the background. Above, is the Greek motto, "Eureka" (I have found it), applying either to the principle involved in the admission of the State, or the success of the miners at work.

The Engraving is of the actual size of the Seal.

We would recommend the Californian Government to use gutta percha in place



THE GREAT SEAL OF CALIFORNIA.

of sealing-wax. This has been employed for the new Great Seal of Ireland, and found to succeed admirably.

THE SEA-SERPENT.—Extract from a letter, dated "H.M.S. *Cleopatra*, Singapore, Oct. 26, 1849," from an officer of that ship:—"Sept. 15. This evening they reported the *sea-serpent*: several of the men, as well as the officer of the fore-castle, saw the monster; and they all ran aft to see it from the stern: they say it was about thirty feet long. After the report, all hands came on deck; but the evening was fast drawing to a close, and the ship going at eight knots, soon left the monster astern, going through the water very quickly to the N.W."—(From a Correspondent.)

HOMERIC TABLE.

This exquisite work has been designed and executed by Mr. John Henning, jun., for the Right Hon. Lord Northwick, a munificent patron of art; and will shortly be deposited in his Lordship's Gallery, at Thirlestane House, Cheltenham.

The design of the sculptor, in the portion of the Table here engraved, is to illustrate Homer's description of the Shield of Achilles (*Vide* Pope's Translation of the "Iliad," book xviii., lines 501 to 704). This circular top is four feet in diameter, and is supported by a palm-tree springing from a tripod base, on which are grouped figures of Achilles, Briseis, Thetis, and a Triton, attended by genii upon the backs of dolphins. This supporting group is beautifully executed in carton-pierre, of the new white of zinc, portions of the base and the palm-tree being relieved with gold, as is also the encircling framework of the Table.

The Shield is beautifully executed in sepia; and the "godlike labours" of "the threefold circle" are admirably drawn.

There earth, there heaven, there ocean he design'd;
The unwearied sun, the moon completely round;
The starry lights that heaven's high convex crown'd;
The Pleiads, Hyads, with the northern team,
And great Orion's more refrigent beam;
To which, around the axle of the sky,
The Bear revolving points his golden eye,
Still shines exalted on the ethereal plain.
Nor bathes his blazing forehead in the main.
Two cities radiant on the shield appear,
The image one of peace, and one of war.

Here we have portrayed the sacred pomp, the genial feast, the solemn dance, and hymeneal rite; the debate in the forum, and the judgment of elders; war, with its horrors of siege, and slaughter, and spoil; contrasted with peaceful industry, and waving fields, and ponderous harvest of vines. Next is the incident of the master bull seized by the lions.

A figured dance succeeds: such once was seen
In lofty Gnosus, for the Cretan queen,
Form'd by Dedalean art: a comely band
Of youths and maidens, bounding hand in hand;
The maids in soft simars of linen dress'd;
The youths all graceful in the glossy vest:
Of those the locks with flowery wreaths inroll'd;
Of those the sides adorn'd with swords of gold,
That glittering gay, from silver belts depend.

These are followed by the games—and so the sprightly revel ends:—

Thus the broad shield complete the artist crown'd
With his last hand, and pour'd the ocean round;
In living silver seem'd the waves to roll,
And beat the buckler's verge, and bound the whole.

This charming work of art will be exhibited for a few days, after the 14th instant, at Messrs. Hering and Remington's, the print publishers, 137, Regent street.

CHRONOMETERS.—The Admiralty have just received from Sir James Ross the journals of chronometer rates kept on board the vessels in the last Arctic Expedition, from which it appears that, altogether, fifteen Government chronometers were employed, eight being used in the *Enterprise*, and seven in the *Investigator*. They were rated by comparison every day throughout the voyage, and their performance regularly noted down. The chronometers selected as the standards, after trials on the voyage, were both of Laseby's mercurial construction, viz. 113 in the *Enterprise*, and 119 in the *Investigator*, and were those chiefly used in navigating the ships home. Notwithstanding the low and variable climate to which the chronometers were exposed, and the shocks the vessels received from the ice, these steadily maintained their rate; and, on reaching England, were found to have indicated the longitude with great precision. The Admiralty have, therefore, given instructions for two others on the same principle to be among those furnished to the present Expedition.

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.—By our American advices this week, we learn that her Majesty's ship *Herald* had arrived at Mazatlan on the 13th ult., after proceeding as far as latitude 73.10, without learning tidings of Sir John Franklin: she left the *Plover* man-of-war to winter in Behring's Straits. The *Plover's* boats had been sent over the Mackenzie river in search of Sir John Franklin. The boats were to winter at the nearest station. The impression of the commander of the *Herald* is, that Sir John Franklin was safe; but we have not the data on which that impression is founded. The yacht *Nancy Dawson*, also at Mazatlan, accompanied the *Herald* in its dangerous voyage. The owner of the yacht was

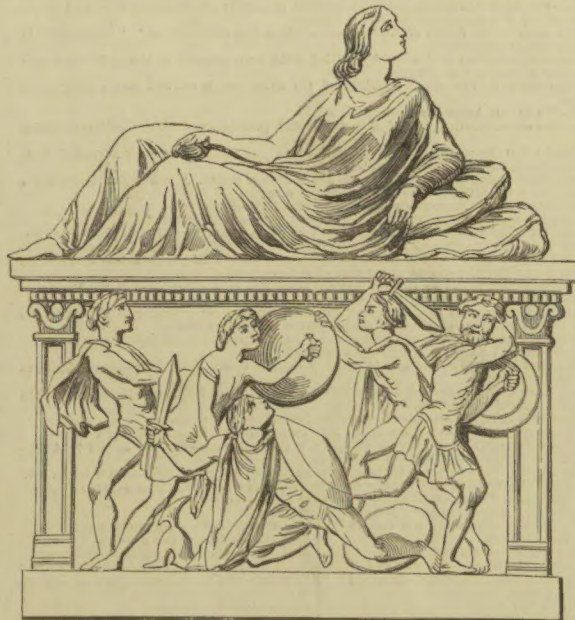
on a tour of the world, and falling in company with the *Herald*, determined to go in search of Sir John Franklin. Since the arrival of the yacht at Mazatlan its owner had died. The yacht, brought in charge of a sailing-master from the man-of-war, would be sent by the British Consul to England.

A young Chinese from Nankin, named Lo, arrived a few days since at Nantes. On landing he went to the house of the Bishop, who received him with the greatest kindness. This young man, who is twenty-two years of age, belongs to a family who have professed the Catholic religion for the last six generations. One of its members is now acting as a missionary in his native country. This young Lo speaks Latin with the greatest fluency. He is about to proceed to Naples, to enter the college of the Propaganda, where eight of his countrymen are already established.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

On Wednesday, the British Museum was opened to the public, after the customary cleaning. Throughout the day, the attendance of visitors was very numerous; and we were gratified to find the Nineveh Sculptures very attractive, notwithstanding their present inconvenient temporary location, in the basement of the building, where, whatever may be the lack of light, there is a tolerable supply of heat.

The subject here engraved is a novel addition to the classic antiquities in the Museum. It is a small Etruscan Sarcophagus, in terra cotta, recently presented by the Marquis of Northampton, and placed on the south side of the Great Central Saloon, under the colossal head of Rameses. The Sarcophagus is



ETRUSCAN SARCOPHAGUS, PRESENTED TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM BY THE MARQUIS OF NORTHAMPTON.

richly decorated in colours, and is a very interesting contribution to the stores of Etruscan art already possessed by the Museum.

ROME.

In a Few Weeks will be Presented, to all Regular Subscribers to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, a

SPLENDID VIEW OF ROME,

Engraved in the Best Manner, from an Original Drawing made during the Late Siege; and intended to form the

FRONTISPIECE TO VOL. XVI. OF THIS JOURNAL.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Jan. 13.—First Sunday after Epiphany. New Moon 11h. 19m. A.M. Monday, 14.—Oxford Term begins. Tuesday, 15.—Sun rises 8h. 1m., sets 4h. 19m. Wednesday, 16.—Battle of Corunna, 1809. Thursday, 17.—Length of night 15h. 39m. Friday, 18.—Prisca. Old Twelfth Day. Saturday, 19.—Sun rises 7h. 57m., sets 4h. 24m.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 19, 1850.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m |
| 2 10 | 2 25 | 2 43 | 3 0 | 3 20 | 3 35 | 3 50 |

FRENCH PLAYS AND OPERA COMIQUE.—ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Fourth Appearance of those Eminent Artists, M. CHOLLET and Mlle. CHARTON.—On MONDAY EVENING, JAN. 14th, 1850, commencing at Eight o'clock precisely, the fourth Performance of a New Opera in Three Acts, entitled LE VAL D'ANDORRE. Music composed by Halévy; the Libretto written by M. De St. Georges. Le Joyeux capitaine de milice Française et recrutaire, M. Chollet; Rose de Mai (servante de Thérèse), Mlle. Charton.—Prices of Admission: Boxes, 6s; Pit, 3s; Amphitheatre, 2s. Doors will be opened at Half-past Seven o'clock, and the Performances commence at Eight. Boxes, Stalls, Tickets, and Season Prospectuses may be secured at Mr. MITCHELL'S Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; also at the Box-office of the Theatre, which is open daily, from 11 till 5 o'clock.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. W. BATTY.—Triumphant and complete success of the varied and brilliant holiday novelties. On MONDAY, JANUARY 14, and during the week, the Entertainments will commence at a Quarter to Seven, with the Magnificent Spectacle of the KNIGHT OF THE EAGLE CREST; OR, THE TOURNEY OF LOVE. After which the Scenes in the Circle. To conclude with the new Grand Christmas Pantomime of YANKEE DOODLE, who came to Town upon his little Pony. On THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, one more Grand Juvenile Night, when the Pantomime will be played first.—Box-office Open from Eleven till Four. Stage Manager, Mr. W. WEST.

MR. WILLY'S CONCERTS.—ST. MARTIN'S HALL, 89, LONG-ACRE.—The eminent Pianist Mr. W. Sterndale Bennett, Mr. Willy, Miss Ellen Lyon, Miss Kenneth, Mr. Land, Messrs. Zerbini, Westlake, Wand, and Reed, will perform at the FOURTH CLASSICAL CONCERT, on MONDAY NEXT, JAN. 14. Commence at Half-past Seven. Tickets, 2s, 3s, and 5s each.

SIMS REEVES, FORMES, ERNST, and THALBERG.—On WEDNESDAY NEXT, JAN. 16th, will be held the THIRTEENTH OF THE LONDON WEDNESDAY CONCERTS (which will be the last but Two of the Series of Fifteen), when the above unrivalled artists will appear, together with Misses Lucombe, Eyles, and Poole, and Mrs. Alexander Newton and Mr. Land.—Tickets, 1s and 2s; Reserved Seats, 4s; Stalls, 7s; may be had of Mr. STAMMERS, at the Office of the Concerts, No. 4, in Exeter Hall; and of all music-sellers.

EXETER HALL.—MR. ALLCROFT'S GRAND CONCERT, MONDAY NEXT, January 14, at which the following eminent artists will appear:—Messdames Catherine Hayes, Birch, Kainforth, Romer, Poole, Huddart, Bassano, and Miran; Messrs. Harrison, Phillips, Henry Russell, Henry Russell, and Henry Russell, the Hungarian Vocalists. Solo performers: piano, Thalberg; viola, Ernst; horn, Vivier; flute, Richardson. Conductors: Messrs. Benedict and Richards. Leader: Mr. Thirlwall. Stalls, 7s; Reserved Seats, 4s; Unreserved Seats, 2s. Stalls, Tickets, and Places to be had at Mr. Allcroft's Opera and Theatre Agency-office, 15, New Bond-street, next to Long's Hotel; at 6, Exeter Hall; and at the principal Music-sellers.

BANVARD'S OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS, EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY, showing Thousands of Miles of American Scenery, extending through the heart of America, exhibiting Cincinnati, the Queen City of the West, the beautiful Falls of the Ohio, the noble scenery to the Mississippi, thence to the city of New Orleans.—Open every Morning at Half-past Two; Evening, Half-past Seven.—Admission: Lower Seats, 2s; Gallery, 1s. "Mr. Banvard is the FIRST PROJECTOR of the enormous paintings of this class."

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—The First of a Series of ILLUSTRATED LECTURES, by Dr. Bachhoffner, on the PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENTIFIC RECREATION, daily at two o'clock, and in the evenings at eight. An entirely new set of DISSOLVING VIEWS OF LONDON IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS, with a Descriptive Lecture, daily at half-past four, and in the evenings at a quarter to ten.—THE VIEWS OF ROME, including new views of the Interior and Exterior of St. Peter's, with Diorama Effects, are shown daily at one o'clock.—Lectures on Chemistry, with brilliant experiments, by Mr. Ashley—Experiments with the Diver and Diving Bell—New Exhibition of Chromatopes.—The Machinery, Models, &c. explained.—Admission, 1s; Schools, half-price.

THE FIFTEENTH VOLUME OF

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS is NOW READY, elegantly bound in cloth, gilt edges, price 18s.; or, stitched in an ornamental wrapper, price 13s.

The whole of the Volumes, from the commencement, may be had, stitched in an elegant wrapper, price 13s. each; except the First Volume, which is 16s. A new and beautiful design has been prepared for the Covers for Vol. XV., which may be had, by order, of any Bookseller or News Agent, price 2s. 6d. each. Portfolios for keeping the six months' Numbers clean, price 4s.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W X Y Z.—Some writers (Milton among them) have denied that such a person as Arthur, the British chief, ever existed. Of this, however, there seems no more reason to doubt, than of the existence of Hengist, Cerdic, or any other man of note of that time. A C.—Apply to the Secretary to the General Lyng-in-Hospital, York-road, Lambeth. H J, Liverpool.—We do not entertain card-playing questions. A CORRESPONDENT, Welwyn.—The price of Knowledge's English Dictionary is 10s. 6d. S T.—The presentations to Christ's Hospital are vested in the Governors, for a list of whom apply at the Hospital, in the early part of the year. JACK OF ALL TRADES, Bayswater.—See "The Printer," in Knight's "Guide to Trade." EXULT.—The Census of 1841 is printed in our Journal, price 1s. Mr. Hood died May 3, 1845. A SUBSCRIBER, Dursley.—The "Sketch-hand," invented by Harding. L L D.—Write on one side only, for expedition sake. The punctuation should be given. ACHILLES.—The Court mourning will cease on the 20th. YORKSHIREMAN, Hull, should apply, respecting the magic lantern, to Horne and Co., 13, Newgate-street. E L N, Manchester.—Relief in money will be preferable. SNEED-URTS should consult the work "Student Life in Germany." FRANKS, Liverpool.—We prefer a scrap-book. T L, Old Windsor.—Thorwaldsen's statue of Lord Byron is in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge. A STUDENT.—We have not room for the "Compliments of the Season." T M.—See the Memoir of Keats in No. 365 of our Journal; and in the Athenaeum, No. 1139. A STEADY SUBSCRIBER, Waterford.—Hemingway's Panorama of North Wales. CLERICUS HIBERNICUS.—We can discover no arms for the name in question. In marshalling quarterings, the first following the paternal coat is that of the earliest heiress, and then succeed any quarterings her descent may bring in; with the second heiress, the same rule is followed, and so on, in chronological rotation, with every heiress from whom the bearer may derive. S M S, Windsor.—An illegitimate child may take any name he pleases. Property must be left to him in the name that will identify him. HELENA.—The word Dowager is generally confined to persons of hereditary title, and borne by the widow of a deceased nobleman or Baron. L M.—The arms of the family of Mathew are—Or, a lion rampant, sa. "Garnished" in heraldry means ornamented. None but the descendants of C would be entitled to the arms granted to him. Mottoes may be adopted or changed at pleasure. A CORRESPONDENT.—The eldest daughter of the eldest son is entitled to the designation of Miss. M F M.—We do not know the nobleman's name. AHPOS.—The unmarried daughter of a Baronet takes precedence of married ladies of inferior rank. W H.—Denies that Yeomanry officers are entitled to put cockades in their servants' hats. Militia officers, however, have undoubted the right. A SUBSCRIBER.—Under no circumstance can a lady bear a crest. A widow, on marrying a second time, drops altogether her first husband's arms. AN INQUIRER.—Charles Earl of Whitworth died 12th May, 1825. A BLACKAMORE.—Which family of Moore does our Correspondent refer to? GENEALOGIST.—The Hens de Visitationes preserved in the Library of the British Museum, and at the Herald's Office. They are all important to the genealogical inquirer, and are accepted as proof in a court of law. Their contents include the pedigrees and arms of the various county families extant at the date of each visitation. ITALIA.—Stacy Grimaldi, Esq. de jure Marquis Grimaldi, is a descendant of the Princes of Monaco. Few families are more illustrious. ? ?—Strictly speaking, we deem our Correspondent correct; but general custom permits the use of the escutcheon even during the lifetime of the lady's father. H B.—The arms of her husband impaled with her own, without crest or motto. H Z Z.—Edward VI bore the motto, "Dieu et mon droit." D L.—The crest engraved on the seal in your possession would possibly render you liable to the tax. S.—By applying to Dr. Chowne, 8, Connaught-place West, Hyde Park, will readily obtain the information required upon the Air-Syphon. AN OLD SUBSCRIBER, Plymouth.—The great of James I. is very common. E B.—We do not know of any work, of the kind you require, that can be relied on. A REGULAR SUBSCRIBER.—The price of Leeche's "Young Troublesome" is 5s. 6d.; 7s. 6d. coloured. Of Doyle's "Mr. Pips" is 6s. A B, Newchurch.—Fall-mast street in London lighted with gas; this being in 1807. C H R, Dulwich.—The first half of the present century will end on December 31, 1850. G O A, Glasgow.—We cannot entertain your unreasonable request. GERO.—The poet Moore is residing at Slapton, Wilt. INVERNA (Sarah).—The address is correct. F J B.—Certainly not. ISABELLA has been misinformed. LUCKY ASHTON.—We cannot advise you. AN ENGLISHWOMAN, Hastings.—Received. J R P, Hall.—Stripes are game. DUTIFUL.—Apply at the office. NICK.—We cannot inform you.

* * Owing to the pressure of News, the continuation of our Irish Correspondent's communication is deferred. From a like cause, the *Nowelllette*, "The Fear of the World," must stand over.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1850.

THE annual Message of the President of the United States is always a document of much interest. More than ordinary curiosity has been felt, both in America and in Europe, to see the first Message of President Taylor—the conqueror of Mexico—the "rough and ready" soldier, and plain man of business. The document has at length arrived, and will confirm the reputation for bluntness and honesty which the President has acquired, and favourably impress the European world with his talents and his character. General Taylor, a Whig and a Protectionist, has manifested an inclination for free-Trade almost as strong and decided as was manifested by Sir Robert Peel in his famous reform of the Tariff; and the only allusions to the subject, which he has permitted himself in the Message, give reason for the belief that his opinions are rapidly settling against Protection. He congratulates the United States on the repeal of our Navigation Laws, and anticipates great benefits to both countries from the change. He also declares himself, though in moderate and guarded language, in favour of a revenue tariff. The approaching debates in Congress will show the strength of parties on this important subject. General Taylor prudently gives the go-by to the irritating and embarrassing question of Slavery—the Nemesis of the Union, who pursues it in good fortune and in bad, and who sits, like the *Ghost of Banquo*, at all her banquets. The Conqueror of Mexico has not forgotten to present his bill for that achievement. A deficit of sixteen millions of dollars, extending over the two financial years ending on the 1st of July, 1851, is the estimated cost of the indulgence of the Union in the Old-World custom of making war upon an unoffending neighbour. The President proposes to meet the deficiency by a loan—a ruinous expedient—which, with the example of Great Britain, France, and all the States of Europe to warn them, the United States would have shown wisdom in avoiding.

Upon foreign politics, the Message is, upon the whole, satisfactory. The President, it is true, goes out of his way to express his sympathy with the Magyars, and his regret that their attempt at revolution was not successful—a proceeding quite as unnecessary, not to say impertinent, as if the Emperor of Austria were to address his Constitutional Parliament, and express his sorrow that the Abolition party in the American Union had not succeeded in putting an end to the crime of slave-holding. With this exception, the Message contains nothing that can give offence to foreign powers. On the contrary, its language is diplomatic and conciliatory. Upon the attempt said to be in contemplation by a buccaneering party to invade the island of Cuba, with a view to its forcible annexation to the Union, as a counter-weight in the slavery interest to the annexation of the free State of California, the President expresses himself determined to execute the law of the United States against any such nefarious scheme, and to maintain inviolate the faith of treaties. Upon the Mosquitia question—which affects all the civilised world in its bearing upon the inter-communication of Europe with the extreme west of America, but in which England is more peculiarly interested, on account of the protectorate claimed by Lord Palmerston, on behalf of the British Government, over the states of the Mosquitia King—the President speaks the language of common sense. The following extract places the matter succinctly before the world:—

A contract having been concluded with the State of Nicaragua, by a company composed of American citizens, for the purpose of constructing a ship canal through the territory of that State, to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, I have directed the negotiation of a treaty with Nicaragua, pledging both governments to protect those who shall engage in and perfect the work. All other nations are invited by the State of Nicaragua to enter into the same treaty stipulations with her; and the benefit to be derived by each from such an arrangement will be the protection of this great inter-oceanic communication against any power which might seek to obstruct it, or to monopolize its advantages. All States entering into such a treaty will enjoy the right of passage through the canal on payment of the same tolls. The work, if constructed under these guarantees, will become a bond of peace, instead of a subject of contention and strife between the nations of the earth. Should the great maritime States of Europe consent to this arrangement (and we have no reason to suppose that a proposition so fair and honourable will be opposed by any), the energies of their people and ours will co-operate in promoting the success of the enterprise.

Whatever the particular claims of the King of Mosquitia may be—and we confess our inability to comprehend exactly the case put forward for him by the British Government—they cannot be of such a nature as to prevent the construction of a great work essentially necessary to the commerce of the whole civilized world. We cannot believe that any real impediment will arise, or that the maritime states of Europe will not consent to the arrangement with Nicaragua in which the Government of the United States has taken the initiative.

THE REVENUE.

The official return of revenue for the quarter which terminated on Saturday last shows that, compared with the corresponding quarter of last year, there is an increase of £371,125, being the balance arising on the aggregate of the various items enumerated below:—

| | INCREASE. |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Customs | £38,235 |
| Excise | 371,899 |
| Stamps | 37,262 |
| Property Tax | 24,960 |
| Crown Lands | 30,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 36,699 |
| Increase on ordinary Revenue | £539,055 |
| Imprest and other Moneys | 1,192 |
| Gross Increase on Revenue | £540,247 |
| | DECREASE. |
| Taxes | £23,052 |
| Post-office | 46,000 |
| Decrease on ordinary Revenue | £69,052 |
| China Money | 84,284 |
| Repayment of Advances | 15,786 |
| | 169,122 |
| Net Increase | £371,125 |

It should, however, be stated, that, notwithstanding the increase on the quarter, the account for the whole year, ending on the 5th of January, 1850, as compared with the year which closed on the 5th of January, 1849, is not so favourable: it presents a net decrease of £80,131.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

(From the *Gazette* of Tuesday.)

BY THE QUEEN.—PROCLAMATION.

Victoria R.—Whereas our Parliament stands prorogued to Wednesday, the 16th day of this instant January, we, with the advice of our Privy Council, do hereby publish and declare, that the said Parliament shall be further prorogued, on the said 16th day of January instant, to Thursday, the 31st day of January instant; and we have given order to our Chancellor of that part of our United Kingdom called Great Britain to prepare a commission for proroguing the same accordingly. And we do hereby further, with the advice aforesaid, declare our Royal will and pleasure that the said Parliament shall, on the said Thursday, the 31st day of January instant, assemble and be held for the despatch of divers urgent and important affairs; and the Lords spiritual and temporal, and the knights, citizens, and burgesses, and the commissioners for shires and burghs of the House of Commons, are hereby required and commanded to give their attendance accordingly, at Westminster, on the said Thursday, the 31st day of January instant.

Given at our Court, at Windsor, this 8th day of January, in the year of our Lord 1850, and in the thirteenth year of our reign.
God save the Queen.

ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—We are informed that, should the next West India Mail not bring any intelligence from Dr. Rae respecting the expedition under Sir J. Franklin, another expedition will be prepared immediately.

COURT AND HAUT TON.

THE COURT AT WINDSOR.

The Royal hospitalities of the past week have been confined to a very small circle of visitors, among whom may be mentioned the Duke and Duchess de Nemours, the Duke d'Aumale, the Prince de Joinville, the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Bishop of Manchester, Sir George Scovell, and the Rev. James Cartmell.

On Saturday last his Royal Highness Prince Albert went out hunting, accompanied by the Duke de Nemours, and attended by Lord Charles Fitzroy and Colonel F. H. Seymour.

Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and the Domestic Household, attended divine service on Sunday morning in the Private Chapel. The Bishop of Manchester preached the sermon, the prayers being read by the Hon. and Rev. G. Wellesley.

On Monday the Prince Consort enjoyed the sport of shooting. His Royal Highness was accompanied by the Duke de Nemours, the Prince de Joinville, and the Duke d'Aumale, and attended by Colonel the Hon. C. B. Phipps, Colonel Berkeley Drummond, and Colonel F. H. Seymour. The Duke and Duchess de Nemours, and the other Princes of the ex-Royal family of France, left the Castle on Monday.

On Tuesday morning her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert drove out, attended by the Maids of Honour in Waiting and the Equerries in Waiting, Lord Charles Fitzroy and Colonel Seymour. The Earl of Liverpool, Sir George Scovell, and the Rev. James Cartmell, arrived the Castle on Tuesday.

On Wednesday her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, with his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and attended by the Marchioness of Douro, Hon. Miss Lennox, Lord Charles Fitzroy, and Colonel F. H. Seymour, drove to Frogmore, where his Royal Highness Prince Albert, with the gentlemen in attendance, enjoyed the diversion of skating on the ornamental water. The Queen and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent were present.

On Wednesday afternoon an address of condolence on the death of her late Majesty the Queen Dowager, from the University of Cambridge, was presented to her Majesty, at an audience given for that purpose, by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, Chancellor, and the Rev. James Cartmell, Master of Christ's College, Vice-Chancellor of the University.

On Thursday, the Queen and Prince Albert dined with the Duchess of Kent at Frogmore House. The Marquis of Breadalbane and the Earl of Liverpool had the honour of joining the Royal party. The Duchess of Kent had afterwards an evening party.

The youthful members of the Royal Family have enjoyed their usual airings daily. Their Royal Highnesses continue in the enjoyment of excellent health.

The Earl of Listowel has relieved Lord Elphinstone in the duties of Lord in Waiting to the Queen; and Col. the Hon. R. Boyle has relieved Col. Berkeley Drummond in the duties of Groom in Waiting to her Majesty.

The Hon. Miss Cavendish and the Hon. Miss Kerr have relieved the Hon. Miss Murray and the Hon. Miss Lennox, in their duties as Maids of Honour in Waiting on the Queen.

THE QUEEN'S COURT, ETC.

On Tuesday last the Queen held a Court and Privy Council at Windsor Castle. It was attended by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Marquis of Lansdowne (Lord President), Sir George Grey (Secretary of State for the Home Department), Earl Grey (Secretary of State for the Colonial Department), the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere (President of the Board of Trade), the Marquis of Breadalbane (Lord Chamberlain), and the Duke of Norfolk (Master of the Horse).

At the Council, Parliament was ordered to be further prorogued from Wednesday, the 16th of January, until Thursday, the 31st of January; and a proclamation was ordered to be issued, summoning Parliament to meet on the said 31st of January for the despatch of public business.

Her Majesty afterwards held a Court, at which the Right Rev. Dr. Hinds had an audience of the Queen in the Royal closet, and did homage on being appointed Bishop of Norwich. The Bishop of Chester (Clerk of the Closet), and Sir George Grey (her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Home Department), assisted at the ceremony. The Right Rev. Dr. Oliphant had an audience of her Majesty, and did homage on being appointed Bishop of Landaff. The Bishop of Chester and Sir George Grey assisted at the ceremony.

After attending the Court, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Earl Grey, the Bishop of Chester, the Bishop of Norwich, the Bishop of Landaff, Sir George Grey, the Marquis of Breadalbane, and the Hon. William Bathurst, left Windsor by a special train on the Great Western Railway, and returned to the Paddington terminus. The Right Hon. H. Labouchere left Windsor for Stoke, and the Duke of Norfolk also took his departure from the Castle.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent will, it is stated, occupy Abergeldie Castle, on the banks of the Dee, during next autumn. This picturesque castle is in the neighbourhood of Balmoral.

His Royal Highness Prince George, accompanied by Capt. the Hon. James Macdonald, left town on Wednesday, for Dean Park, near Kettering, on a visit to the Earl of Cardigan.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Worcester are passing the festive season at Badminton.

We much regret to have to announce the death, at Vienna, on the 15th ult., of the Comtesse de Maltzan, after a protracted illness. The deceased will long be remembered, by those who knew her, as an ornament to society, as well as for her many amiable and kind qualities. She was aunt by marriage to the present Viscountess Melbourne.

The Earl and Countess of Hardwicke have arrived at Leghorn, en route for England.

The friends of Viscount Seaham will be gratified to learn that his Lordship's sad and fatal accident has not interfered with his general health. The inflammatory action in the vessels of the eye is subsiding; and, although his Lordship suffers much pain and uneasiness, he bears up with the utmost patience and fortitude against his sad calamity.

Viscount Canterbury and Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence have joined the circle assembled on a visit to the Earl of Cardigan, at Deane Park.

Sir George Grey left town on Wednesday afternoon, on a visit to the Duke of Bedford, at Woburn Abbey, Bedfordshire.

Lord John Russell will give the first Cabinet dinner this season on Wednesday next, at his residence in Chesham-place; and on the following evening a grand entertainment will be given by his Lordship to the leading members of the *corps diplomatique*.

We understand that a marriage is shortly to take place between Lord Ossulston, M.P., son of the Earl of Tankerville, and Lady Olivia Montagu, only daughter of the Duke of Manchester. The fair *fiancée* is in her 20th year. A marriage is also said to be arranged between the Hon. and Rev. Frederick Ponsonby, second son of the late, and brother of the present, Earl of Besborough, and the Lady Louisa Eliot, only daughter of the Earl and Countess of St. Germans.

MARRIAGE IN HIGH LIFE.—The nuptials of the Hon. Sarah Elizabeth Copley, eldest daughter of Lord Lyndhurst, and Mr. Henry John Selwin, only son of Mr. John Selwin, of Down Hall, Essex, were celebrated on Tuesday last, at St. George's Church, Hanover-square. After the performance of the religious rite the relatives and friends, of both families, present to witness the ceremony, adjourned to the mansion of the noble and learned Lord, in George-street, where a *déjeuner* was given by Lady Lyndhurst to celebrate the event. The bride, who was attended to the altar by her sisters, the Hon. Sophia and Georgiana Copley, and Misses Mary and Gertrude Selwin, was attired in a costume composed of a robe of rich white glacé, flounced with costly Brussels point lace, and a veil of the same rich material. Shortly before three o'clock the newly-married pair, after taking leave of their assembled relatives, left town for Dawlish, in the county of Devon, where they will pass the honeymoon.

POSTAL COMMUNICATION WITH THE CONTINENT.—The postal committee of the Boulogne and Amiens Railway Company, who are endeavouring to obtain an alteration of the present route of the mail with France, by which the receipt and despatch of correspondence, not only with the Continent, but with China and India, would be very materially facilitated, have prepared the following memorial to the Premier, which is now in course of signature in all the principal manufacturing cities of the kingdom:—"The memorial of the undersigned merchants, bankers, and others of —, humbly sheweth,—That the present postal communication between England and France does not offer those facilities which the great interests of the two countries require. That the mail service *via* Dover and Calais is performed with much unnecessary delay, and conveyed by a circuitous and expensive route, to the great detriment of commerce and international communication. That, by the substitution of the more direct and less expensive route *via* Folkestone and Boulogne, letters posted in Paris in the evening would reach London in time for the first morning delivery; and in time, also, for the early morning mails to the north and west of England. That the delay caused by the present postal service between the two countries affects not only the correspondence between London and Paris, but the mails from India and China, and thereby occasions much inconvenience to the general trade and commerce of the country. That the service between Folkestone and Boulogne could be performed with certainty and regularity, except during the prevalence of south-west gales of wind, which render the port of Boulogne inaccessible for not more than twenty times in the year, when the mails might be landed at Calais, and carried by special conveyance to Boulogne. That even under such circumstances the mails would be conveyed in the same time and delivered at the same hour as at present *via* Dover and Calais, where there is an insurmountable fixed and regular delay occasioned by the additional length of 66 miles of road, and that the present failures in the service which not infrequently occur during north-east gales of wind, when Calais is inaccessible, would entirely cease. That your memorialists, therefore, pray that, for the interests of commerce, and the promotion of amity and intercourse between the two countries, the mail service may be transferred to the direct and natural highway between London and Paris, *via* Folkestone and Boulogne. And your memorialists will ever pray, &c."

PIRACY IN BORNEO.—We understand that the Peace Society and the Aborigines' Protection Society intend to take up the subject of Sir James Brooke's recent exploits in the Eastern Archipelago; and a public meeting is to be held on the subject just before the opening of Parliament.

NATIONAL REFORM.

The spirit of movement which at present agitates the rural and agricultural community for the purpose of obtaining "Protection" from the Legislature, is equally active amongst the town populations for the accomplishment of a very different object, viz. "Parliamentary and Financial Reform." We subjoin the report of a meeting this week of the association which was organised some time back, with this latter object in view. The proceedings pointedly show the direction in which the under-currents of opinion are at present running in the great tide of politics with such active power and force.

A special meeting of the members of the National Reform Association was held at the London Tavern, on Monday; Sir Joshua Walsley, M.P. (the President), in the chair. Among those upon the platform were Mr. H. Tindal Atkinson (hon. secretary), Mr. G. W. M. Reynolds; Mr. Feargus O'Connor M.P.; Mr. Arthur Anderson, M.P.; Mr. Brodie McGhie Wilcox, M.P.; the Rev. Robert Thomas Spencer, A.M., and the Revs. Thomas Binney, John Burnett, and Eustace Carey (Dissenting Ministers), Mr. Under-Sheriff Wire, Mr. Miall, &c. The body of the room was densely crowded.

Mr. H. Tindal Atkinson, the hon. secretary, read the financial statement for the past nine months, from which it appeared that the receipts had been £1980 7s.; and the expenditure, £1869 17s.; leaving a balance of £110 10s.

Amongst the letters of apology for inability to attend, was the following from Mr. Cobden:—

103, Westbourne-terrace, Jan. 7, 1850.

My dear Walsley,—I have been confined to the house for a couple of days with a cold, and am sorry I can't be at your meeting. I am engaged to appear in Buckinghamshire on Wednesday next, and unless I nurse myself so as to be well enough to go, the Protectionists will say I am afraid.

By the way, what better proof could be had of the necessity of an alteration of our representative system than is to be found in the simple fact that the Protectionist party are claiming to have public opinion on their side in favour of a revival of the Corn-Laws. They tell us to look at the increase in the late elections for Kidderminster and Reading, where a few hundred men, more or less under influence, returned Protectionists. Now, I would ask, how many members would they return in favour of a broad-tax, if the constituencies numbered, as they ought to do, 10,000 voters at least? The necessity of placing the House of Commons more under the influence of the people few will deny; the only question is, how to accomplish it. I can only say that whether it be attempted by a direct vote of the House of Commons, or by as many as possible of the people arming themselves with the 40s. freehold franchise—whatever plan may be resorted to it shall continue to have my hearty support. All I ask of the public is, not to delude themselves with the idea that a few Liberal members of the house can accomplish anything without the co-operation of the great majority of the people out of doors; and remain, very truly yours,

Sir Joshua Walsley, M.P., Fellenberg House, Stamford-hill, Jan. 6, 1850.

The Chairman reported the progress of the movement, and indicated the tactics for the ensuing year. He said that nine months ago he had presided over a meeting in that room, to celebrate the birth of the association, and now he had to congratulate them upon their onward progress. A few months after the first meeting, an aggregate meeting had been held in Drury-lane Theatre, when the feeling for reform appeared so universal that it was thought wise to change the name from Metropolitan to National, and subsequent events had proved that they had only anticipated the wants and wishes of the nation. (Cheers.) Meetings had also been held at Northampton, Norwich, Newcastle-on-Tyne, North and South Shields, Sunderland, Perth, Aberdeen, Greenock, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Denbigh, Wrexham, Southampton; and, in addition, sixty meetings had been held in and around the metropolis. (Cheers.) In all these places branch societies had been formed; the friends of improved representation were ripe for action, and looked to the present meeting for advice and example. A short time since a conference of the tried friends of the association had been held, and three things had been unanimously agreed upon:—

1. That a fund of no less than £10,000 be raised to be devoted during the year to the purpose of the association.
2. That immediate measures be taken to arouse simultaneous meetings throughout the entire country.
3. That a conference be convened in London in March next.

Of the ability of the country to carry out the second of these propositions there could be no doubt if the first were realised. This would be practicable there was no cause for fear. The council had itself set an example of liberality, and the present meeting had been called as a committee of ways and means. A similar appeal would be made to the second city in the empire. A list of the subscriptions would be read, and those present would be invited to swell that list, and it would be known to the world to-morrow that the City of London, which was forward in every work of national philanthropy and commercial enterprise, was also foremost in the movement for representative regeneration. (Cheers.) The speaker then proceeded to describe all the elements of discontent existent in the country as elements in the strength of this movement, which, properly directed, would be so powerful that no Ministry or Parliament would be able to resist it. Amongst the most powerful of these aids would be their fellow-subjects in the colonies, as intelligent, as virtuous, and as discontented with the present system as themselves. (Great cheering, which lasted several minutes.) The colonists were the victims of every theorist who might hold the reins of power at the Colonial office; they were made to pay inordinately for the gew-gaw pageantry of Courts—(Continued applause)—maintained only for the benefit of an idle tax-devouring aristocracy—(Cheers)—and foul and worthless officials. The colonists would see that in a redemption of the people at home from class legislation was their only chance of obtaining an enlightened system of self-government, and relief from the present tyrannous misgovernment from which they suffered. They were unrepresented in the House of Commons—(Cheers)—and that House, in fact, was not a real representation of the people. (Loud cheers.) It represented only class interests, those of the aristocracy and those who profited by corruption being predominant. (Cheers.)

The chairman then called upon the hon. secretary to read the resolutions agreed to at a meeting held at the association on the 20th of December, which would put the meeting in possession of what was proposed to be done. They were as follows:—

That, as the recent demonstrations throughout the country justify the conclusion that the nation is strongly in favour of the principles of this association, it is now the special province of the council to develop the feeling which unquestionably prevails, and that this should be done as speedily as possible, so as to produce a timely influence on the proceedings of Parliament.

That it is necessary, as a preliminary measure, to extend the organisation to every town in the kingdom, and secure local committees, to promote everywhere the enrolment of members, the delivery of lectures, and the holding of public meetings. That to arrange this organisation, and to incite the friends of reform to active and simultaneous efforts, this meeting recommends to the council that the kingdom should be divided into districts, and gentlemen be deputed from the council to each of such districts, to superintend, according to special instructions, the necessary organisation, and report from day to day to the council.

That the council be requested to consider the best means and the most appropriate time to promote the expression of public opinion, by embodying in a petition the principles of the association.

That, for the purpose of carrying out the objects of the association, an appeal be made to the reformers of the country at large, to raise a sum of at least £10,000 for the year 1850.

That it be a recommendation to the council to convene a conference of persons, delegated by committees or public meetings of reformers in all parts of the kingdom, to be held in London, not later than the month of March next, and that the members of the present consultation pledge themselves to use their best exertions to advance the objects, and to insure the success of the principles of the association.

The first resolution was agreed to *nem. con.*, viz. :—

That this meeting, convinced of the necessity of a general agitation of the United Kingdom on the question of parliamentary and financial reform, with a view to an early and universal expression of public opinion on that subject, would record its cordial and emphatic approval of the plans proposed by the Council of the National Association for that purpose, and pledges itself to render immediate and efficient co-operation.

Mr. Feargus O'Connor having delivered a characteristic speech against Protection, and in favour of enlarged political reform,

The Hon. Secretary read a great number of subscriptions, amongst which were S. Morley, £50; William Johnson, £50; R. Cobden, M.P., £10; A. Anderson, M.P., £50; W. Leefe, £50; Admiral Higgins, £50; S. Burt, £20; T. Prout, £50; W. Williams (ex-M.P. for Coventry), £50; Sir James Duke, M.P., £10; B. Wilcox, M.P., £50; G. Thompson, M.P., £10; H. Tindal Atkinson, £10; G. W. M. Reynolds, £10; G. M. Wilby, £10; D. W. Wire, £50; Sir Joshua Walsley, £50; the Norwich Branch, £100, &c.

The second resolution stated—

That this meeting earnestly recommends to the friends of Parliamentary reform, throughout Great Britain and the colonies, to furnish prompt and liberal assistance to the council of the National Association, by the holding of public meetings, the passing of resolutions, the formation of committees, the employment of local agents, and the contribution of funds.

Mr. Hall seconded it. He was a practical man, and his idea was, that 250 men of business, and of independent means, friends of the people, and ready to sacrifice their time and their energies for the public good, ought to be at once sought out and entered as candidates for the next election. Each of these ought to put down £1000. (Roars of laughter.) Then they would be prepared to say to the people—"You must subscribe £500,000 more; and with £250,000 worth of exertion and zeal from those who had nothing else to give, they would open the campaign with £1,000,000 sterling." He thought the £10,000 per annum to be raised by the society would be found insufficient; and he wished the Protectionists to take notice that he intended not only to propound, but to carry out this scheme. (Cheers.) He had no ambition to sit in Parliament, but he was ready with his £1000 to sign the roundrobin. (Great cheering.) "On the oath of a Spartan (said the speaker), I declare I will never hesitate until I have rescued from the fangs of a corrupt aristocracy the Parliament house of the people of England." (Shrieks of laughter.) He concluded by expressing his most emphatic belief that the "human mind of man" would be irresistible "if it had possession of the purse-strings of this nation." (Cheers and laughter.)

Mr. Miall supported the motion, because the House of Commons was a deception and a fraud. It professed to be representative of the Commons of England, but in reality represented almost everything else.

The resolution being agreed to,

Mr. Sheriff Wire proposed the following resolution:—

That this meeting regards with feelings of great satisfaction the proposition of holding a national conference in London during the month of March next, and calls upon the friends of the movement in all parts of the country to assist the council by selecting earnest Reformers to represent them at that important meeting.

The Chairman said he had had a note put in his hand stating that Mr. Jones, the secretary of the Association for Promoting Social Reform, desired to address a few words to the meeting. This was not a Socialist meeting, and therefore Mr. Jones could not be heard on that point; but if he would confine himself to the objects of the meeting, they would be glad to hear him.

The chairman then announced that £1500 had been subscribed in the room, and that the business of the meeting was at an end.

The Rev. Thomas Spencer, who was announced as "an honest Churchman of the Church of England," moved a vote of thanks to the chairman.

The vote having been seconded and carried by acclamation,

Sir Joshua Walsley acknowledged the compliment. He was a true Conservative, and supported this movement because he wished to preserve the rights of property intact.

The meeting then separated.

AGRICULTURAL PROTECTION.

The Protectionists carry on their agitation with unremitting vigour. There is scarcely a county in which they have not held one or more meetings lately. —Upon the ensuing page we have Engraved the extraordinary scene at the Meeting held at Lincoln, on December 17, and fully reported in our Journal of Dec. 22.

On Saturday last, at Leicester, one of the most crowded and influential of those assemblies yet convened on the subject was held in the Bell Hotel. Its object was "To take into consideration the circular of the National Association for the Protection of British Industry and Capital, and the propriety of addressing her Majesty the Queen upon the present depressed state of the country."

The Hon. H. W. Wilson occupied the chair, and there were present the Marquis of Granby, M.P., Lord Charles Manners, M.P., Lord John Manners, C. W. Packer, Esq., M.P., and all the leading agriculturists, professional gentlemen, and tradesmen of the neighbourhood.

The Chairman read a number of letters from gentlemen, excusing their attendance, and one from his Grace the Duke of Rutland, which was read amidst marked expressions of satisfaction, as follows:—

Belvoir Castle, Jan. 5, 1850.

My dear Willson,—Though I have not seen the resolutions proposed to be moved at the meeting to-day, I anticipate that they will bear upon the necessity of a return to the wholesome system of protection to our national industry; and, under this conviction, I heartily wish the meeting may be unanimous, and that there may be, as lately at the late meeting at Exeter, the confusion of persons who have been Free-Traders, but who are now converts to the system of Protection. I wish I could bring back a few years that have passed over my head, that I might accompany those who are going from the castle to assist in the proceedings of this day. I scout the idea lately broached by Cobden and his myrmidons, that the law regulating the importation of grain is irrevocable. I consider such cry equally absurd and presumptuous, and I hope ere long it will be found so to those who sound it.

Believe me to be, yours, &c.,

RUTLAND.

On the motion of Mr. Thomas Allen, of Thurmaston, the first resolution was agreed to, viz. :—

That the present Free-Trade system has had a fair trial, and has failed; that it has not been followed by reciprocal relaxations in the commercial codes of other nations, and has brought distress upon the agricultural, commercial, and colonial interests, and threatens a wide-spread ruin, which can only be averted by returning to the system of a moderate, just, and equal protection to every interest of the state.

The Marquis of Granby proposed the next resolution—

That this meeting, convinced that the great interest of agriculture, the surest foundation of wealth and strength, is weighed down by burdens at all times difficult to sustain, and now oppressed beyond endurance by the severity of an unprofitable competition with the untaxed productions of every foreign nation, ought to make every constitutional effort to obtain a return to those principles under which our domestic industry has flourished; and believing, by a cordial co-operation, conjuncted efforts may be rendered available where isolated exertions have failed, this society resolves to co-operate heartily with the Association for the Protection of British Industry and Capital.

The noble Marquis took a general view of the state of agriculture from which he argued for the absolute necessity of Protection:—"The questions (said he) that we have to consider are, are labourers to be employed?—are our tenant-farmers to make a profit?—are our landlords to receive their rent from the land? These are the questions we are here to decide, and I for one venture to assert that under present prices it is impossible. (Hear, hear.) The diminution of the price of your produce is not owing, as has been asserted, to an extraordinarily abundant harvest, but it is owing to the imports of foreign grain and foreign cattle. (Hear.) And though for the next few months, in consequence of the rivers and the ports abroad being blockaded up with ice, there may be a slight reactionary movement in the price of grain—although it may range a few shillings a quarter higher—as surely as spring returns, will wheat again fall at least to its present level, if not still lower than now. (Hear.) Well, but it is said that if you only apply fresh capital to your farms—if you will only farm higher, and use greater exertions, and not despair, you may still meet this competition successfully." He showed, however, from the examples of high-farming in Scotland, that the competition of the foreigner could only be sustained by Protection.

The resolution was carried amidst cheers.

Lord John Manners moved,

That an address be presented to her Majesty the Queen, imploring her Majesty to exercise her Royal authority by dissolving Parliament.

(Cheers.) The noble Lord reviewed the disastrous effects of Free-Trade measures, quoting largely from letters in the *Morning Chronicle* in support of his arguments and deductions. He had a very great dislike for the demagogue of the Red school, who spoke daggers, and was prepared to use them; but he confessed that the feeling he entertained for a demagogue of the white feather class, who spoke daggers with no intent to use them, was of unmixt contempt. (Applause.) He should like Cobden to know that the farmers and other industrial classes of England perfectly appreciated at its worth his brags and his bluster; they knew as well as he (Mr. Cobden) did, that the working men of the north of England bore no allegiance, and would render no submission to an anti-ten hours' bill manufacturer of Lancashire (cheers); they knew as well as he did, that should he again endeavour to rally them round the banner on which was inscribed "Cheap bread, low wages, and long hours," that his discomfiture would be supremely ridiculous. They might believe him,

That spell upon the minds of men
Breaks, never to return again;
Those pay-god things of cotton away,
Work minds of brass and souls of clay.

(Loud cheers.)

Mr. W. P. Owsley, of Blaston, briefly seconded the resolution, which was carried *nem. dis.*

A form of address was adopted, and on the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Willmore, it was agreed that the Duke of Rutland be respectfully requested to present the same to her Majesty.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings at four o'clock, the meeting having occupied nearly five hours.

On the same day a meeting at Horsham, in Sussex, carried the war into "the enemy's camp," seeing that the borough of Horsham is represented in Parliament by Lord Edward Howard, a son of the Duke of Norfolk, a Free-trader, and possessed of office under Government. The meeting, however, passed off without any serious interruption save now and again a cry of "Free Trade for ever!" "Cobden is coming!" "You care much more for yourselves than you do for the poor man!" "Down with tithes and taxes!" "Down with the parsons!" "You are a set of monopolising farmers!" "Sir Robert Peel is coming; he'll let you know about it!" &c.

The proceedings took place in a large marquise outside the town; the attendance was crowded. Amongst the gentlemen on the platform were Sir Charles Burrell, M.P.; Lord Alexander Lennox, M.P.; Walter Wyndham Burrell, Esq.; C. Scrase Dickens, Esq.; Paul Foskett, Esq. (of the National Association, in London, who attended by invitation from the committee); H. Boldero, Esq.; Edwin Henly, Esq.; C. G. Evershed, Esq.; Charles Bethune, Esq.; Walter H. Hitchcock, Esq.; Rev. John Broadwood, Rev. Dr. Thornton, &c.

Mr. W. W. Burrell presided, and the following resolutions, which were proposed and seconded in appropriate speeches, were agreed to:—

That the agricultural, colonial, and other interests of this country are at the present moment involved in intense suffering and difficulty, and are fast hastening to a most fatal condition of general distress and ruin, from which no relief can be expected until the Free-Trade policy, to which their position is attributable, be wholly abandoned, and a system of just protection to domestic industry against foreign competition be substituted.

That the agriculture of this kingdom is one of its most vital interests, and that its destruction must inevitably be followed by the ruin of our commercial and manufacturing interests. That the Free-Trade policy of the present Government has signally failed, has materially injured the shipping interest, and, at the same time, has involved the agricultural labourers, and all other industrial classes generally, in cruel distress, privation, and ruin.

That a loyal and dutiful address be presented to the Queen, praying that her Majesty will exercise her Royal prerogative by dissolving the present Parliament, from which no hope can be entertained of obtaining a reversal of the fatal policy under which the whole country is suffering; and that her Majesty will thereby afford to the British people the opportunity of electing a House of Commons composed of men who entertain sentiments in harmony with the opinions, and in unison with the interests of the great mass of her Majesty's loyal subjects throughout the empire, and who would support an administration based on the principles of equal protection to every interest of the British community.

The secretary having read the draft of an address to the Queen, it was also resolved—

That the draft of an address now presented and read to this meeting be approved and adopted; and that his Grace the Duke of Richmond be requested to present the same to her Majesty the Queen.

The Dorchester Agricultural Protection Society likewise held a general meeting of its members, on Saturday, for the same purpose, at the Antelope Hotel, in that town, at which Mr. Floyer, M.P., presided. The proceedings were of the usual character.

GREAT MARLOW.—On Tuesday, the farmers and landowners of South Bucks assembled at Great Marlow, for the purpose of discussing the present disastrous condition of agriculture, and to petition her Majesty to dissolve the present Parliament. Nearly 200 gentlemen sat down in the Town Hall. The chair was occupied by Mr. Thomas Peers Williams, M.P.; and amongst the gentlemen present were Mr. Disraeli, M.P.; Captain Howard Vyse, M.P.; Colonel Knox, M.P., the Rev. T. Colwell. The speeches were of the usual character. Mr. Disraeli, in the course of his observations, took occasion to contradict a statement in the local paper, that he had raised his rents.

In several other localities similar meetings have been held during the week. On Wednesday the farmers and landowners of Salop assembled at Shrewsbury; and on Tuesday those connected with South Leicestershire and North Northamptonshire met at Market Harborough, and agreed to an address to her Majesty to dismiss her present Parliament.

Great excitement and considerable activity at present prevail in the neighbourhood of Holywell, Flintshire, in consequence of the discovery of several rich veins of lead ore on the properties of the Hon. Mr. Mostyn and Viscount Fielding. Leases have been proposed to be taken at heavy rates by the tenants; but, until the property is further developed, the lords have declined to enter into conclusive arrangements.

GAME.—Lord John Scott has discharged his gamekeeper, and has given his tenants notice that they are at liberty to kill game on their respective farms. His Lordship reserves the woods and plantations to himself, with a request that, as he does not make a traffic in game, his tenantry will follow his example. He particularly requests that foxes may be preserved on his estate.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

MOURNING FOR THE LATE QUEEN DOWAGER.—The following has been issued to the officers of the Navy and Marines:—"Her Majesty does not require that the officers of the fleet or Royal Marines, should, from the 6th of January next, wear any other mourning for her late Majesty the Queen Dowager, than a black crape round the left arm till the 20th January, when the mourning will cease."

GENERAL ORDER.—HORSE GUARDS.—The Commander-in-Chief has received the Queen's commands to notify to the army that the mourning for her late Majesty will change on the 6th of next month, when the full mourning prescribed in the general order of the 6th instant, will be discontinued. The officers of the army will, from the 6th of January, wear with their uniforms a black crape round the left arm till the 20th of January, when the mourning will cease.—By command of Field-Marshal the Duke of Wellington, Commander-in-Chief, John Macdonald, Adjutant-General.

THE ARMY REDUCTIONS.—The proposed reduction of the army has given rise to various "on dits." In military circles it is confidently stated that the whole of the reserves in the Mediterranean are to be reduced; and some go even so far as to say that the Duke will not remain Commander-in-Chief if the whole of the reserve and 10,000 men are struck off. The army in Ireland is to be considerably reduced; but the rank and file of the regiments abroad are to be kept up to the establishment.

REDUCTION OF THE NAVAL ESTIMATES.—The reduction of the navy estimates for 1850-51 will be considerable, amounting, it is said, to more than a quarter of a million. The reduction will not affect seamen, but 1000 marines less will be voted, and the savings will be in their provisions and pay, and in the decrease of stores, &c.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.—Major-General Godwin, C.B., has just been placed on the list of general officers receiving the unattached pay of 25s. a day, but the Colonelcy of the 80th Foot is still vacant.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF HORSE GUARDS.—The barracks at Knightsbridge having been repaired, &c., are again occupied by this regiment from Canterbury.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—The *Enterprise*, Captain Collinson, C.B., and the *Investigator*, Commander M. Clure, have been occupied in taking additional stores on board at Woolwich during the week. Amongst the articles taken on board was a cask labelled "Presents"—no doubt for the Esquimaux and its contents were stated on the top to be 350 files, 800 awls, and 20 lb. of vermilion. A large package of letters was also received on board, in a strong white leather bag, addressed to the officers and crews of her Majesty's ships *Erebus* and *Terror*, Bhering's Straits. The anxiety to witness the state of things on board was very great, and hundreds of persons went on board, although the vessels were so crowded with stores that the visitors could scarcely move on deck, or even below. There is an excellent library on board, and every comfort provided for the officers and crews during the long winter of the northern regions. An experiment took place on Wednesday, at the principal entrance of the Dockyard, on a plan submitted by Mr. Shepherd for sending despatches to a great extent over the country in the vicinity of the North Pole. The plan consists in sending up a small balloon, to which is attached a slow match, about a foot in length, and round the slow match several hundred pieces of coloured paper are fastened by a thread, surrounding about one hundred of the pieces of paper in each packet. The experiment was very successful.

At St. Petersburg the new arsenal, a very splendid building on the right bank of the Neva, opposite the Palace of Taurisch, has just been finished, at a cost of 2,800,000 silver roubles.

APPARATUS TO PREVENT FATAL ACCIDENTS ON THE ICE.—In a letter signed "Humanitas," in the *Morning Post*, it is suggested that two high poles, connected at the top, be erected on the banks of a piece of water, passing through a pulley a long rope attached to an inflated India-rubber ball, covered with network. This should be thrown to the person having the misfortune to break through the ice, who, on laying hold of the ball, might be lifted out of the water; and thus the present plan, of dragging persons through or under the ice, be got rid of.

MELANCHOLY SHIPWRECK OFF RAMSGATE.—Nearly abreast of Ramsgate, on Sunday morning, at daybreak, a melancholy scene presented itself. Two briggs were perceived labouring on the Brake, and the crew of one of the ill-fated vessels was seen crowding in the maintop. An immense heavy sea was breaking over the wreck, and the melancholy fate of the poor fellows seemed certain. Several luggers made an effort to reach them; the formidable character of the surf prevented them, however, and between nine and ten o'clock the mainmast, on which they had collected, snapped and went overboard, the poor fellows being carried with it. Not on: was seen afterwards. It is alleged that had a lifeboat been put off it could have reached the wreck, and rescued the unfortunate crew. The ill-fated vessel outlived the storm but a short time. The foremast quickly went, and before noon the vessel disappeared. The name of the vessel is not correctly ascertained. The remains of a log-book, bearing the name of the *William and Ann*, were picked up near the Brake, and it is conjectured that might be her name. The other wreck was the *Navarino*, Mr. Boys, master, of Whitby. The crew, however, succeeded in getting away in their boat, and were taken on board a vessel which was riding some distance off. The poor fellows were landed at Broadstairs.

THE TURKISH FLEET.

THE accompanying Illustration shows the Turkish Fleet at anchor at Terhanna,* as the dockyard and arsenal are called. On the 17th of December our Artist counted twelve large men-of-war and some smaller vessels there. The Turks have also a corvette, two briggs, and two steam-frigates, besides some smaller war-steamer, in the Bosphorus.

The naval arsenal is at the upper end of the Golden Horn.

The British fleet left Bashika Bay, between Tenedos and the entrance to the Dardanelles, on the 16th December, for the anchorage between Mosconissi, or Mosco Island, and the mainland, Gulf of Adramyti. Our Artist saw the masts and rigging of the vessels across the low ground of Mosco Island as he passed in the Peninsular and Oriental ship *Sultan*, 20th December: the steamer showed her colours, and was answered by one of the line-of-battle ships. On his return from Smyrna, 22nd December, there was a French fleet of six line-of-battle ships, one frigate, and two large steamers, at anchor in Vourla Bay, Gulf of Smyrna.

THE DARDANELLES.

We have been favoured by a Correspondent on board her Majesty's ship *Caledonia*, in Bashika Bay, with the accompanying Sketches of the celebrated fortifications of the Dardanelles, erected on both sides of the Hellespont, which from them takes also the name of the Strait of the Dardanelles. This Strait, which divides Europe from Asia, and unites the Sea of Marmora to the Archipelago, extends in a south-west direction upwards of fifty miles in length.

From the number of guns mounted, the narrowness of the Channel, and the knowledge that there is always a current running out through it at the rate of two miles and a half an hour, one would probably say, "Grant now that the artillery shall be in good order, and placed so that they can be used effectively, and that they are served by good gunners, and we would give but little for the fleet that dared to run past them." But all these conditions do not exist: a great many of the guns are old; only a few are good ones; and the windage in many would be very great. The touch-holes are very much larger than they need be, too. In the gun shown in the accompanying sketch, our artist was able to thrust in his walking-stick—about three-quarters of an inch in diameter. Again, though the embrasures may be built in a tolerable direction for striking ships once during their passage, it is a great fault that they admit of the guns being trained so little. It is doubtful whether the Turks be good artillerymen, for they seem to have very little practice. Still, to serve out these large 700lb. shot quickly, must require some experience; and those in the Dardanelles have, probably, not been moved for years. The consequence is that the passage is not so difficult for a fleet as it might easily be made. An English fleet did pass there once—the gun and shot on Mount Wise, Devonport, are the trophies borne off on the occasion; but we must not fancy that the Turks have not much better means of destruction now than then. Any prudent man would march his small-arm men and marines with their field-pieces across from Bashika Bay, and decide the matter on shore: against such an attack there is scarcely any provision whatever. Once up through this channel, and the way to Constantinople is clear. The defences of the city for preventing a fleet reaching it from the Black Sea are very strong; and if the ships would only sail down, they would stand a chance of being sunk. But when Russia makes up her mind to attack the city of the Sultan, it will be done by an army landing at the end of the Black Sea, far enough out of range of the castles of the Bosphorus.

In the interesting account which James gives of Sir John Duckworth's return through the Dardanelles, we are told that "the *Active* received a granite shot weighing 800 lb., and measuring 6 ft. 6 in. in circumference, which passed through her side 2 feet above the water, and lodged on the orlop deck, close to the magazine scuttle, without injuring a man. The aperture made by it was so wide that Captain Mowbray, on looking over the side, saw two of his crew thrusting their heads through at the same moment. Had there been a necessity for hauling to the wind on the opposite tack, she must have gone down." Shots of the size here mentioned had never been heard of before, and from that time till now; besides, from the high importance attached to the channel of the Dardanelles, there have always been feelings of curiosity and wonder with regard to its fortifications.

Perhaps, of all the eight batteries that guard the channel, the most formidable is that of Chanah-Kalesi, or the Inner Fort of Asia. During the time that our squadron was recently at anchor near it, it was thrown open to the inspection of our naval officers, and every attention was paid to them by the Pasha in command. A goodly number of Englishmen were to be seen in his tent every day, all with long pipes in their hands; some enjoying themselves, others evidently smoking from courtesy and curiosity. Our first illustration shows the Fort of Chanah-Kalesi, from the middle of the channel; and the other, the battery from which the stone shot are discharged. The guns at present mounted

* From Persian *Ters*, ships, and *Hanna*, place for artificers.—Murray's "Handbook."



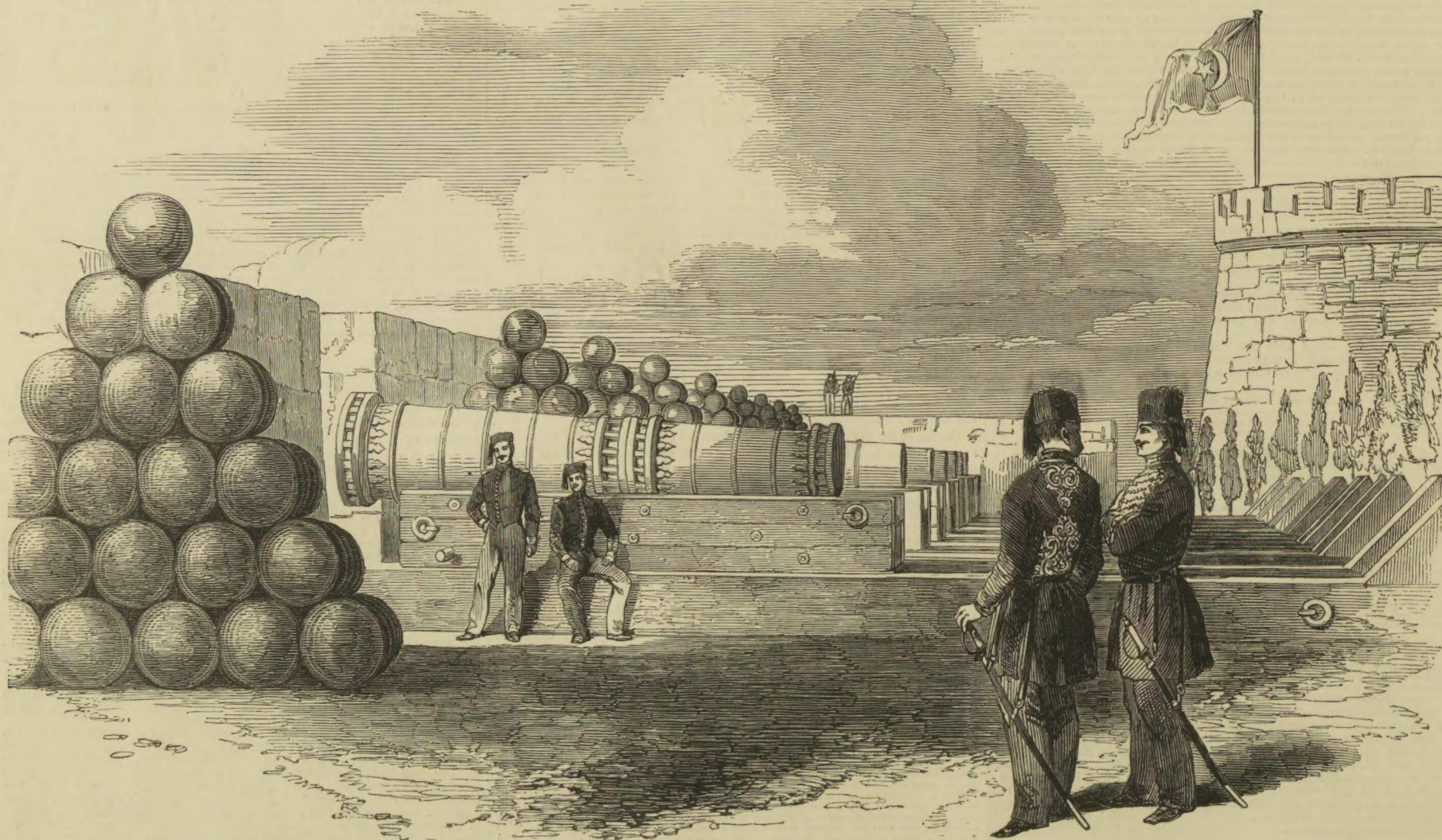
THE TURKISH FLEET IN BASHIKA BAY.

in the lower tier are twenty-six 32-pounders, ten guns for stone shot, and sixteen 10-pounders. There are embrasures in the inner fort for 57 guns guns more. These would of necessity be of small calibre, but still might do

much execution on a vessel, as she would be obliged to pass so close to them.

By far the most interesting gun is that shown in the foreground of the accompanying Sketch. It is in two parts, one of which contains the chamber,

and they are screwed together in the middle by the means seen in the drawing. We give below the dimensions of this gun, which is one of the largest, as they vary from 1 ft. 9½ in. to 2 ft 1 in. in the diameter of their bores; and some idea

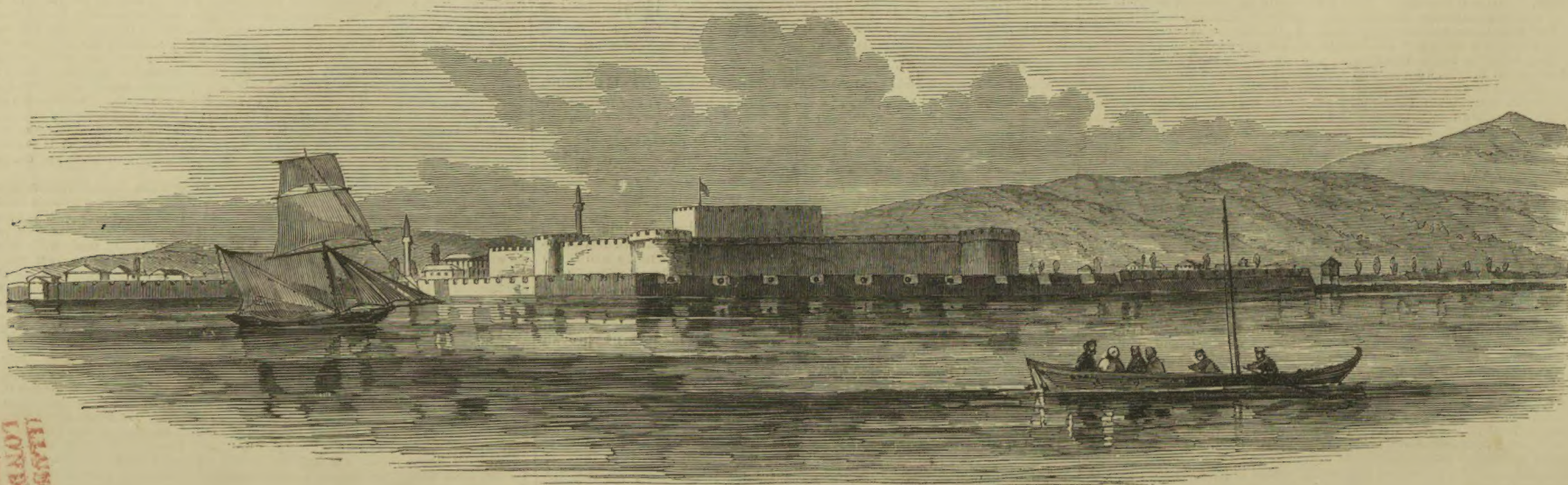


THE DARDANELLES.—THE BATTERY AND STONE SHOT.

may, we hope, be then formed of the battery. The other guns are all cast in one piece, and two of them bear marks of having been struck by our shot on the occasion we first alluded to:—Length of the gun, 17 ft. 2½ in.; part containing

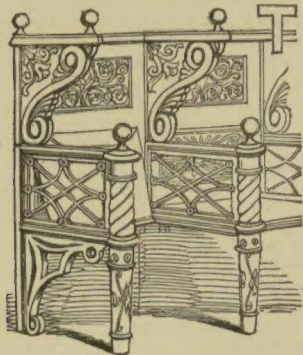
the chamber, 7 ft. 8½ in.; length of chamber, 5 ft. 8½ in.; diameter of bore, 2 ft. 0½ in.; diameter of chamber, 7 in.; thickness of metal in the chamber, 1 ft. 1 in.; thickness of metal in the other part, 4½ in.; length of carriage, 17 ft. 10½ in.;

height of carriage, 2 ft. 6 in.; length of slide, 40 ft. 9 in.; height of slide, 1 ft. 9 in.; diameter of touch-hole, ¾ in.; circumference of shot, 6 ft. 3 in. granite, weight, near 700 lb.



THE DARDANELLES.—FORT OF CHANAH-KALESI, FROM THE MIDDLE OF THE CHANNEL.

NEW GREEK CHURCH, LONDON WALL.



columns and the enrichments are in good style, and exceedingly well done. Above the triple windows is a sunken panel, containing the following beautiful inscription in Greek characters:—

Σεπτῆς Βικτορίας Βρετανῶν μέγαν ἰθυσούσης
Λαόν, ἰδ' ἅλλ' ἀνδρῶν φίλα πολυσπερέα
Τόνδε Θεῷ Σωτῆρι παροική εἰσατο Γραικῶν
Νῆον, θεσμοσύνας ἀξιομένη πατρίους.

"During the reign of the august Victoria, who governs the great people of Britain and also other nations scattered over the earth, the Greeks sojourning here erected this Church to the divine Saviour, in veneration of the rites of their Fathers."

A bold cornice, supported by consoles, runs round the upper part of the Church, and there are pediments at the respective fronts of the building—that to the north being crowned with a cross. In plan, the Church is a cross of equal parts. The portions of building shown in our Illustration as projecting in the angles of the cross, to the level of the base of the windows, contain the entrance vestibule, staircases to the galleries, &c.

The interior of the Church is peculiar, being very lofty, and, in its general form, differing widely from that of churches as usually arranged. The cruciform character of the interior is not apparent at the lower portion of the church, as the altar-screen shuts off the eastern part, and the space required for the corridor, in the entrance blocks, up the chief of the northern part of the cross.

The ceiling in the centre is domical in form, having a bold dentil moulding at its springing, and a large flower in its centre: over those parts constituting the arms of the cross, the ceiling is arched, paneled, and otherwise enriched; the spandrels being ornamented with enriched paneling. On the northern and southern sides are galleries supported on arches, highly decorated, springing from pillars having extremely bold and effective capitals, the fronts of the galleries containing panels filled with elaborately-worked flower ornaments; the latter enrichment being also carried along the altar-screen. The altar-screen is divided into a centre and two wings; the central portion projects, and has an arched doorway, between pilasters; whilst, on either hand, pictures are in sunken panels, and above the architrave, supported by the pilasters, are panels and panels corresponding in number to those in the story below. The middle panel on this story contains the following appropriate inscription:—

Τὸ σπέρμα τῶν ἐπὶ σοὶ πεποιθότων
στερέωσον, Κύριε, τὴν Ἐκκλησίαν,
ἥν ἐκτήσω τῷ τιμίῳ σου αἵματι.

"O Lord, the strength of those who trust in thee, uphold the Church, which thou hast redeemed by thy precious blood."

The centre is finished by a pediment, within which is a dove, surrounded by a glory. The wings have doors in them, surrounded by enriched mouldings, pictures being inserted in panels; in other respects, the architectural features of the wings correspond with those of the central portion. The dwarf door to the centre opening is of picturesque character, and is surmounted by a cross, a curtain of gold embroidered-work filling up the space above the doors. The pictures in the altar-screen were painted in Russia, and represent the Annunciation, the Virgin holding the infant Jesus, Jesus sitting on a throne, and St. John the Baptist. Within the screen is the altar, thus separated from the body of the Church, the place wherein it stands being termed the "holy place," symbolic of the Holy of Holies in the Jewish ritual. A magnificent chandelier, holding a great number of wax-lights, is suspended from the ceiling; but in our view it is omitted, to show the whole of the altar-screen.

The congregation in the Greek Church being enjoined to stand during the service, it may be imagined such a task is no easy one; and, therefore, the seats are

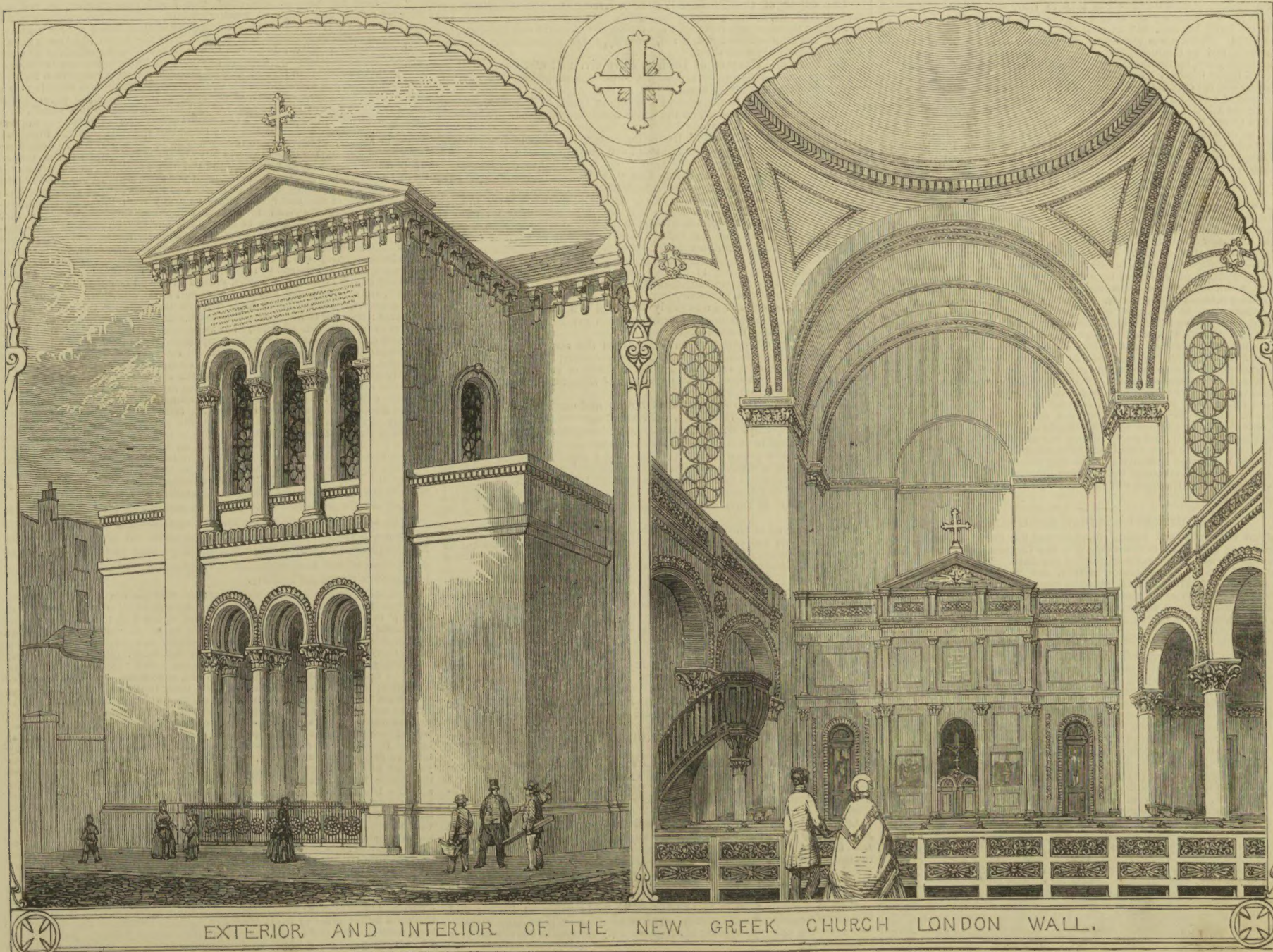


PRIEST OF THE GREEK CHURCH READING THE GOSPEL AT THE ALTAR.

so made as to enable the congregation to rest on them, yet to appear as if standing. This is accomplished by the seat being made to turn up as in the stalls in our cathedrals, there being knobs placed on the upper arms to serve as arm-rests. The seats are very richly ornamented with brass-work in the back, and we have shown, in our initial etter, the character of them.

The service on Sunday was, as before mentioned, peculiarly interesting, from the circumstance that the Church was consecrated, the priest inscribing a cross on each of the walls. The altar was consecrated, and covered with a gold-embroidered cloth, and a tall crucifix placed in the centre, silver candelsticks on each side, and, at the foot of the crucifix a beautiful receptacle, called

ἄρτορρόμιον or bread vessel, containing some of the holy bread dipped in the wine, kept to be used in cases of extreme necessity when the mass cannot be celebrated, as, for instance, to be administered to persons dying. The book of the Gospels, bound in silver, exquisitely chased, was also placed on the altar. After the consecration of the Church, the Gospel was read by the officiating priest, four boys standing before him holding wax tapers, each in a surplice having a blue cross worked on the back; and this scene we have illustrated in one of our Engravings. The same youthful attendants preceded the priest when he brought the elements of the Holy Sacrament from the side altar whereon they had been placed, and put



EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR OF THE NEW GREEK CHURCH LONDON WALL.

them, with great ceremony, on the high altar. A most striking portion of the ceremony of the mass is when the curtain is drawn before the altar, whilst the priest reads the prayers for the sanctification of the sacrament. These the priest reads silently and alone; and at their conclusion he advances, draws the curtain on one side, and "bids peace to all the people," and blesses them. The sermon was preached by the priest in his usual dress, a black robe, and wearing his black hat. This is covered with the *καλύπτρα* or veil, to indicate that the wearer is under the influence of the Gospel, and that he cannot utter anything not in accordance with the Holy Scriptures. The dress of the priest during mass was magnificent in the extreme. The sacred vessels used in the mass are extremely beautiful, the chalice especially being a perfect specimen of art.

The officiating priest is the Rev. Mr. Morfingos.

The erection of so elegant a Church reflects great credit on the liberality of the Greek residents in the metropolis, as the cost of the building has been, we believe, about £10,000, and the number of the residents is not above 220 persons, of all ages—the number of families is about thirty.

We should mention, the architect of the Church is T. E. Owen, Esq., of Portsmouth; and the builders, Mr. Jay, of City-road Basin.

It is intended that there shall be one service every Sunday, commencing at eleven o'clock.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

CAMBRIDGE.

GOODBEHERE FELLOWSHIP.—The funds bequeathed to the college by the late Horatio Goodbehere, Esq., for the purpose of founding a Fellowship, having fallen into possession, the society are taking steps to carry out the intentions of the testator. It is determined that the Goodbehere Fellowship shall be a clerical one.

NEW LAW STUDENTSHIPS.—This society has just established some new law studentships, of the value of £50 per annum each, tenable for two or three years, at the pleasure of the society. Graduates in Arts, and students of Civil Law of three years' standing, who have performed the exercises for the LL.B. degree, will be eligible for appointment, provided they be *bonâ fide* prosecuting the study of the law with the view to practise as barristers or as advocates in Doctors' Commons. The first student will be elected after the publication of the lists of honours in the various triposes for the year 1852, and there will be, in general, one election in each succeeding year.

PREFERMENTS.—Rev. William Archibald Paxton, to Otterden R., Kent, dio. of Canterbury; £307, with residence; vacant by the death of the Rev. G. D. Goodyar; patron, William Gill Paxton, Esq. Rev. Ralph Barker, to Pagham V., Sussex, in the diocese of Chichester; £211, with residence; vacant by the resignation of the Rev. E. H. E. Goddard; patron, the Archbishop of Canterbury. Rev. J. James, D.D., to Peakirk R., Northamptonshire, diocese of Peterborough; £625, with residence; patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Peterborough. The Rev. Hugh Jones, D.D., Rector of Beaumaris, to be Rural Dean in the diocese of Bangor. The Rev. Philip Filleul to the Rectory of St. Helier's, Jersey. The Rev. Edward Tew to the Vicarage of Patching, Sussex. The Rev. E. Davys to the Vicarage of St. John the Baptist, Peterborough. The Rev. B. Sanders to the Vicarage of Lakenheath, Suffolk. The Rev. James Sandford Bailey to the Vicarage of St. Clement's, Cambridge. The Rev. John Septimus Sisson to the Vicarage of Orton. Rev. John White, to the Perpetual Curacy of Manthorpe, Grantham, Lincolnshire; patron, Earl Brownlow. Rev. J. Todd, P.C. of South Cowton and Eryholme, Yorkshire, to be Chaplain to Lord Alvanley.

VACANCIES.—St. Andrew P.C., Lambeth, diocese of Winchester, £130, void by the death of the Rev. A. C. Carr; patrons, the Crown and Bishop alternately. Jackfield P.C., Bromley, Salop, diocese of Hereford; value £40; patron, F. B. Harries, Esq.; Rev. W. Bates, deceased. Birmingham King Edward's Grammar School, Assistant English Mastership; salary, £175. Sherborne, Dorset, Head Mastership of the King's School; Rev. C. T. Penrose, resigned. Grantchester V., Cambridgeshire, diocese of Ely; £291, with residence; patrons, C. C. College, Cambridge; void by death of Rev. J. Hewitt, whose decease also vacates Walcott P.C., Norfolk, diocese of Norwich, £43; patron, the Bishop of the diocese. The Vicarages of Maxey, value £304 with residence; patron, Dean and Chapter of Peterborough; and Peterborough, value £575 with residence; patron, Bishop of Peterborough; Northamptonshire, dio. Peterborough, Rev. J. James, D.D., prom. The Perpetual Curacy of Wyke, Surrey, dio. Winchester; value £130 with residence; patron, Vicar of Worplesdon; Rev. W. A. Paxton, prom. The Chaplaincy of Leeds Borough Gaol; salary £150, with house, gas, and coals; patrons, Justices of Leeds; Rev. C. H. Angell, resigned; testimonials before Jan. 31.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

SIR JAMES MALCOLM, K.C.B.

This daring and chivalrous officer, whose maternal grand-uncle, Admiral Sir Thomas Pasley, achieved his Baronetcy by his heroism on the "1st June," and three of whose brothers, Sir Pulteney and Sir Charles Malcolm, Admirals, and Sir John Malcolm, a General, gallantly served their country, was the second son of George Malcolm, Esq., of Burnfoot, Dumfriesshire, a descendant of the Malcolms of Lahore and Innerdint, in the county of Fife, who married Miss Margaret Pasley. James Malcolm was born in 1767, and entered the British service when only thirteen years of age. In the first American war he was an officer in the Royal Marines, and went with Lord Howe to the relief of Gibraltar, in 1782. Malcolm was also senior officer of the marines in the battle of St. Domingo, and he commanded the second battalion of that distinguished corps for three years, on the north coast of Spain, in the United States, and in Lower and Upper Canada; he was engaged in several actions, and displayed great daring and conduct at the storming of Fort Oswego, on Lake Ontario. His whole course of active service embraced a period of forty-eight years. In 1815, he was created a K.C.B. Sir James Malcolm married, in 1805, Jean, daughter of William Oliver, Esq., of Dinley Byre, Roxburghshire, of which country he was Sheriff. Sir James, who was a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Royal Marines at the time of his death, died on the 3d instant, at his seat, Minihall, Dumfriesshire, aged eighty-three; he leaves issue two sons and two daughters, one of whom is married to William Burdett, Esq.

LIEUTENANT WAGHORN, R.N.

THOMAS WAGHORN, whose name is so meritoriously connected with the improved state of travelling to India, entered the British Navy the 10th November, 1812, and was made a Lieutenant the 23rd March, 1842. His fame lies in his being the originator of the Overland Mail to India, one of the greatest benefits that has fallen to the lot of this country in her communication with her great Eastern empire. The Christmas-day, only, before his lamented death, Mr. Waghorn had returned from Malta, where he had been residing a short time for the benefit of his health, which had been considerably impaired by anxiety of mind, arising chiefly from pecuniary engagements, contracted in his prosecution of the Trieste experiments in 1846, and which liabilities the devotion of all his means and the sacrifice of his entire property were inadequate to liquidate. Independent of the main incidents of his history in connexion with the Indian Overland enterprise, which has immortalized his name as one of the greatest practical benefactors of the age, his career had been a most extraordinary one, full of the strangest vicissitudes, and abounding in evidences of character in every way worthy of enduring commemoration. Of the pension lately awarded him by Government, he lived to receive only one quarter's payment. His death was occasioned not so much by any specific disorder as by the general break-up of the system, though the wreck of his iron constitution; his irrepressible energy, offered so great a resistance to the inroads of debility that it was thought to the last he would rally, and his dissolution was attended with great pain and suffering. Lieutenant Waghorn died somewhat suddenly, on the 8th inst., at his residence, Golden-square, Pentonville, in the 49th year of his age. It is sincerely to be hoped that the Government will continue his pension to his widow.

(A Portrait of Lieut. Waghorn will be found in No. 184 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL NICOL, C.B.

This gallant Peninsular and Indian officer entered the British service in 1795, and rose, during a long and brilliant career, to be a Lieutenant-General in 1846, when he was also nominated a Companion of the Bath. Nicol was present at the battles of Vittoria, the Pyrenees, Nivelle, and Nieve; he was also in the Nepal War of 1814, 1815, and 1816, where he commanded a division of the army under Sir David Ochterlony's command.

Lieutenant-General Nicol was Colonel of the 68th Regiment at the time of his demise, which occurred at Clifton, near Bristol, on the 6th inst.

PEERS WHO DIED IN THE YEAR 1849.—George Earl of Auckland, G.C.B.; Charles Earl Talbot; George Robert Earl of Buckinghamshire; John Lord Carteret (title extinct); Archibald Earl of Gosford; Charles Joseph Viscount Monk; John Earl of Mayo; William Aubrey de Vere, Duke of St. Albans; Joseph Henry Lord Walscourt; Henry Earl of Thanet (title extinct); Thomas Oliver Lord Louth; David Earl of Airlie; Paul Lord Methuen; Mason Gerard Earl of Aldborough; Richard Wogan, Earl Talbot de Malahide; William Charles Earl of Albemarle; William Lord Alvanley; Henry John George, Earl of Carnarvon; John Lord Colville, of Culross.

A FAMILIAR PHASE OF AMERICAN SLAVERY.—"For sale, a coloured girl, of very superior qualifications, who is now in Mr. Hall's goal in Norfolk. She is what speculators call a fancy girl—a bright mulatto, fine figure, straight black hair, and very black eyes; remarkably neat and cleanly in her person. I venture to say that there is not a better seamstress, cutter and fitter of ladies' and children's dresses, in Norfolk, or elsewhere, or a more fanciful knitter of bead bags, money purses, &c. Any lady or gentleman in Norfolk or Portsmouth, who may wish to purchase a girl of this description (whom I consider the most valuable in Virginia), may take her and try her a month or more at my risk, and if she does not suit and answer the description here given, may return her to Mr. Hall. The cause of offence for which I intend (though reluctantly) to sell her, is, that she has been recently induced, by some coloured persons, to make her escape with them to the north, in which she failed, and is now for sale. Apply to the subscriber in Suffolk, or to Mr. James Murdaugh, or C. C. Robinson, of Portsmouth, for further information. JOSEPH HOLLADAY."—*Anti-Slavery Reporter.*

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Sir B. Hall, Bart., M.P. for Marylebone, is steadily progressing towards recovery from protracted and severe indisposition; and the numerous friends of the honourable baronet will be glad to learn that there is every prospect of his being able to attend to his parliamentary duties in the approaching session.

It is anticipated that there will be an election at Windsor immediately after the meeting of Parliament, in consequence of the expected retirement of Lord John Hay (one of the Lords of the Admiralty), recently appointed Superintendent of Plymouth Dockyard. Lord John Hay was returned without opposition, in conjunction with Colonel Reid, at the last general election.

Thomas Horne, Esq., Attorney-General at Van Diemen's Land, is promoted to be Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court in that colony, vacant by the removal of Mr. Montague; Valentine Fleming, Esq., Solicitor-General, succeeds Mr. Horne as Attorney-General; A. C. Stonor, Esq., is appointed Solicitor-General in the room of Mr. Fleming, and Francis Smith, Esq., Crown-Solicitor.

The whole of the quarantine, established for many years in Milford Haven, was abolished on Saturday.

It is announced, on official information, that the port of Cardenas, and others of less importance, of the Island of Cuba, were thrown open to foreign commerce on the 1st of January, 1850.

The Earl of Carlisle added several fine hares to the repast of the inmates of the Malton Union Workhouse on Christmas Day.

It was reported by the visiting committee at the last meeting of the board of guardians of the Glanford Brigg Union, Yorkshire, on Thursday, the 27th of December, that the workhouse was then fuller than it had been since its erection, and that the number of inmates was fifteen per cent. more than it was at the same period last year.

In the present year two eclipses of the sun will take place (both invisible in England), but none of the moon. The first eclipse of the sun will be an annular one on the 12th of February, at twenty-nine minutes past six in the evening. The other will occur on the 7th of August, at thirty-four minutes past nine P.M.

Sidney Stephen, Esq., is appointed Judge of the Supreme Court at Otago, New Zealand; R. T. Jarvis, Esq., Superintendent of Convicts at Bermuda; Algernon Montague, Esq., Stipendiary Magistrate at the Falkland Islands, and S. Frazer, Esq., a Stipendiary Magistrate in British Guiana.

M. de Nieuwerkerke, the new director of the Musée at Paris, last week, fought a duel in the Bois de Boulogne, with the editor of the *Liberté*, whom he slightly wounded.

Aylesbury old bank, which has for many years been carried on by Messrs. Rickford and Hunt, of that town, is henceforward to be conducted under the ownership of Mr. Z. D. Hunt, the partnership having expired, by efflux of time, on the 31st of December.

The first meeting for the enrolment of members in the Typographical Widows, Orphan, or Nominee Fund, took place on Saturday evening last, when about 400 compositors, by their names and subscriptions, sanctioned its principles.

The Wanderer of Vienna announces that the children of Kossuth, two boys and a girl, will, as soon as they have attained the age requisite, be brought up in the Theresianum. Until then their education is committed to a M. Csernecky, assessor of the Appeal Court of Exchange. The girl is three, and the boys are respectively eight and ten years old.

J. H. H. Foley, Esq., M.P., at his rent day, on Saturday, the 23rd ult., ordered ten per cent. to be returned to his tenants upon their last half-year's rent, in addition to the ten per cent. returned at Midsummer last, in consideration of the present low prices.

The Federal Council of Switzerland has notified that, from the 1st of February, pecuniary allowances will only be made to such political refugees as may absolutely need them.

Mr. Cobden purposes visiting Sheffield on the 22nd inst., when he will submit to his financial and parliamentary reform friends an outline of the measures which, in conjunction with Mr. Bright, he has made up his mind to submit for adoption by the legislature during the approaching session of parliament.

The Journal de Constantinople confirms the intelligence that M. de Lamartine has become the possessor of a considerable extent of land near Smyrna.

General Oudinot has received a private letter from the Pope, dated the 25th of December. His Holiness expresses his thanks for the last vote of the Assembly relative to the maintenance of the French troops in Rome. He adds that he had intended some time since to return to his capital, but that an incident had prevented him. He expresses a hope, however, to be able to do so soon.

At Leghorn, recently, domiciliary visits have taken place, in order to discover the authors of a clandestine journal which had lately made its appearance.

The eldest daughter of Robert O'Brien, Esq., Mulcahir (brother of Mr. Smith O'Brien), a lovely child, about twelve years old, met with a severe accident on the eve of Christmas, by shaking a powder flask near the fire-place. The explosion was instantaneous, and so mangled the hand that it was necessary to amputate one of the fingers.

The editor of the *Medical Times*, referring to the moustaches of medical students, assures a correspondent that "moustaches have their uses; and among the most important, they are considered to point out the idlest, the vainest, and most self-conceited, if not, probably, the most dissolute, in the class. They are beacons to warn others."

The Dean and Chapter of Durham have given £100 to the fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of the South Shields pilots. The sum already subscribed amounts to about £3000.

His Majesty the Emperor and the whole Court of Russia went into mourning from the 1st instant, for the Queen Dowager of England. The mourning is to last twenty-four days.

The day mail to Hereford from Gloucester, has been discontinued on Sundays. Letters posted on the Sabbath will be despatched per night mail only.

It is announced on something like "semi-official" authority, that amongst the earliest measures to be submitted to Parliament by the Government, in the ensuing session, will be bills to provide an extension of the suffrage both in England and Ireland; and that it is not improbable that a reform of such importance will be recommended in the Speech from the Throne.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, according to ancient custom, entertained the gentlemen connected with the several official departments of the corporation at dinner, on last (Plough) Monday. Covers were laid for 60, and the party broke up at about 11 o'clock. Before leaving, each gentleman was presented with a service, consisting of cake and sweetmeat, for the younger branches of their several families.

The Duchess of Parma was safely delivered of a daughter on the 27th ult. The young Princess has been baptized with the names of Alice, Maria, Carolina, Ferdinanda, Rachel, and Jane Philomena.

The number of prisoners in custody in the county gaol, Ipswich, from Woodbridge division, were on the 27th of December, 1849, 39; ditto on the 27th of December, 1849, 47. Daily average number of prisoners from Woodbridge division, for the quarter ending the 27th of December, 1849, 27; ditto the 27th of December, 1849, 36.

The late Queen Dowager's stud of horses and carriages were sold on Monday and Tuesday at Tattersall's, and realized a good round sum.

David Pugh, Esq., M.P., Llanwchydol, Montgomeryshire, at his last rent-day, returned to all his tenants, unsolicited, ten per cent.

At Lyons, the police succeeded in seizing a *dépôt* of 20,000 volumes of Socialist tracts in the dwelling of a tailor of that city, who was employed by the Socialist propaganda to distribute them amongst the operatives.

A leader of the insurgents of June, 1848, named Hibere, was tried by court-martial in Paris on Monday, and sentenced to transportation for life.

The President of the French Republic, on the report of the Minister of the Marine, has conferred the decoration of the Legion of Honour on twenty naval surgeons, as a recompense for their exertions and devotedness during the prevalence of the cholera at the various naval ports.

Notice has just been given to the butchers of Paris and the cattle-dealers who frequent the markets of Poissy and Sceaux, that the procession of the Boeuf Gras, which has been suspended since the Revolution, will be revived this year.

Mr. Brande, the eminent chemist, has, we are informed, volunteered to lecture, at the Royal Institution, on the 25th instant, on the new process of sugar manufacture and refining by acetate of lead.

Mr. Evelyn, M.P. for West Surrey, has taken off ten per cent. from the last year's rents of his estates in Kent, in consideration of the distress existing among the farmers in that county.

Mr. Lumley, the *impresario* of the Italian Opera, has slipped on the pavement at Brussels and has broken his left arm. He is, however, going on favourably.

Sir J. T. Tyrell returned 10 per cent. to his tenantry at his audit held on Saturday last.

A proposal made some time since, to establish an Architects' Benevolent Society, has now taken a form, and an address from the promoters of it will be issued to the profession in a few days. Messrs. Cockerell, Barry, and Hardwick have agreed to be trustees; Mr. Sydney Smirke, president; and Mr. Tite, treasurer.

On Tuesday the City side of the Gresham Committee entertained the Mercers' side of the same committee at dinner at the Albion Tavern, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor in the chair. Amongst the company were Mr. W. Palmer, the master; Mr. Barnes and Mr. Watney, the wardens; Mr. J. Horsely Palmer, Mr. C. F. Johnson, Mr. Day, Mr. L. P. Wilson, Alderman Hooper, Mr. R. L. Jones, Mr. Norris, Mr. G. Smith, Mr. Tite, Mr. Bower, Mr. Hoppe, and Mr. H. E. Barnes.

Horace Vernet, who is at present in Nice, is going to Rome; and it is deemed highly probable that the object of his journey is to take sketches for a picture of some one or other of the glorious (!) victories of the French over the Romans.

MR. BRIGHT, M.P., ON THE CONDITION OF IRELAND.

A public meeting was held in the Corn Exchange, Manchester, last week, for the purpose of presenting to Mr. John Bright, M.P., an address from the Irish residents in Manchester and Salford, in testimony of their high appreciation of the able and honest manner in which he advocated the claims of the sister country at the late meeting in the Free-Trade Hall. There was a numerous attendance.

Mr. Bradshaw occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings depicted the miserable condition of Ireland, which he ascribed to the coercive and persecuting policy of former British Parliaments.

The Rev. Daniel Hearn moved, and Dr. Murphy seconded, and Mr. McConvery, of Belford, supported the presentation of a long address to Mr. Bright, of a highly complimentary character, and strongly expressive of gratitude to him for his recent exposure of Irish grievances.

The motion having been carried, and the address presented, amidst general cheering, Mr. Bright addressed the crowded assembly. Having acknowledged the gratifying compliment which had been just paid to him, he proceeded to rebut charges which had been made against him in some leading journals, arising out of his late speech at the Free-Trade Hall. He said: "In all the principal newspapers throughout Great Britain and Ireland, there seemed to be no attempt made to deny the facts which I had laid before the public. (Cheers, and a cry of 'Hugh M'Nelle!') I believe the most powerful organ of the press in this country had nothing to say against it, but that the statements were not new. But that I had myself admitted in the speech. I said, if I recollect right, that for thirty years past the Imperial Legislature had laid before it, time after time, a statement of the actual condition of the Irish people; and I brought it as a serious charge against the Constitution of this country—against the aristocratic form of our Government—that all these statements had passed unregarded, and that the condition of Ireland had scarcely, until recently, excited any real solicitude on the part of either the Ministry or Parliament. An influential organ of the Whig party in the Scottish metropolis brought another charge against me, which was, that I was fostering that want of self-reliance which has been charged against the Irish people, when I blamed the laws and institutions under which they lived; that I taught them, in fact, to look to Parliament, and to changes of law, for improvements in their condition which they might effect for themselves. Now, my object was this—to take away from all those who have done evil to Ireland, that subterfuge under which they have constantly sheltered themselves, that there is something in the race and religion of Irishmen which makes it impossible for that country to prosper. (Cheers.) This newspaper pointed to the condition of the Highlanders of Scotland; that they were of the Celtic race, like the majority of the people of Ireland; and that they were in a condition very much like the condition in which Irishmen are found; but it would not be difficult to show that the economical causes to which I have so often referred, with regard to the condition under which landed property is held in Ireland, are precisely the same in the Highlands of Scotland, and produce in the Highlands precisely the same effect that they are found to produce throughout a large portion of your country. (Cheers.) But I should like to know upon what the Irish people are to rely. I am as much for self-reliance as the editor of that paper; but I have stated before, and state again, that the Irish people are not the possessors of Ireland; that the country is not theirs—that the land is not theirs; that it has been purposely, and systematically, and by law, prevented from becoming theirs; that Irishmen are wanderers and beggars in their own land; that the raw material of a nation's industry, the soil, is in chains, and in chains of law, and therefore to rely upon that as a source of industry is impossible. And, further, I have shown that, by any means, there is any industry and any productivity, there is no security for the reward of industry, and therefore no stimulus for the exertions of the people. (Loud cheers.) To tell the literal fact with regard to Ireland, the soil of that country has been, for two or three centuries past, in the possession of the enemy. The present possessors of land are the successors of those who were the possessors of it through conquest and through confiscation—(loud cheers)—and the laws of this country, of the Imperial Legislature, and of your Legislature, when it was under the power or the corruption of ours, the laws which have prevailed in Ireland from that time to this, have made it impossible for the Irish people to become possessors of the soil of their own country. In fact, it is in the possession of those who have necessarily been regarded—if I may quote the very notorious expression of a very notorious individual—as aliens in blood, in language, and in religion. (Cheers.) Now, we will not go back to these bygone days 200 or 300 years ago, and pretend that the acts of those days can be reversed; but I do assert that it would have been possible for the Legislature to have taken such precautions with regard to property in Ireland, that there would have been a complete amalgamation of the two nations long before this; and if you could not have given to Irishmen a common faith, which is by no means necessary, you might long ago have given them a common interest in the redemption of their common country. (Loud cheers.) We find the people of Ireland in a condition of forced idleness, because the great raw material of their industry is placed without their reach."

He next dwelt on what he considered the grand obstacle to the improvement of the social condition of Ireland—the monopoly of land. The subdivision of the soil into very small tenements, and the competition amongst the peasantry for these miserable holdings are excessive, and are fraught with evil consequences.

"The land has been so subdivided, that families are growing up, and one member taking one plot, and another another, until it is brought down to the letting, in one particular district, of as much as what is called a 'cow's grass,' and this is further subdivided to a 'cow's foot,' or the fourth of a 'cow's grass,' and this again is subdivided, even to a 'cow's toe,' or the eighth of a 'cow's grass.' Now, can anybody conceive anything so likely to produce the state of things that now exists in Ireland as that there should be a competition for land so fierce as this—to divide it into the smallest garden patches, in order to rear a few of the commonest qualities of potatoes for the sustentation of an almost pauper family? But another result of this state of things, and a proof that it exists, is to be found in those awful agrarian outrages of which you must so often have heard. Well, it is very easy to explain that. If they find these vast tracts of country which are wholly unavailable to them, which they cannot obtain in the free market either to let or buy, it is not to be wondered at that an ignorant—for it is often an ignorant—and suffering population should ask why it is that these vast estates are in the hands of one man, and that the great bulk of the population are wholly unable to partake of the advantages which flow from the possession of the land? It comes naturally from this state of things—the proprietors of the land in Ireland being few, they neglect, and very grossly neglect, all the duties of their office, and of their position as proprietors; they have proved themselves to be a most improvident and reckless class. I am not saying that every proprietor is of this character, for there are some brilliant exceptions; but what I say is true with respect to the great bulk of the proprietors of the soil in Ireland. (Hear, hear.) And if this be so, we may naturally expect that the cultivators, ground down by the fierce competition for the soil, are trampled upon and trodden almost in the dust. We come, then, to the natural result of this old system—that the landlords for the most part are beggared; they are to my certain knowledge almost universally despised, and to a large extent detested. (Cheers.) The suspicions that exist between the tenants and proprietors are such as to make it impossible that there should be harmony and progress in that country. (Hear, hear.) The cultivators are poor, they are unskilful. Under the pressure of recent circumstances they are leaving the country by every vessel, and carrying with them whatever skill they have, and whatever small property they have saved from the wreck of their fortunes. In fact, the export of Ireland consists now of Irishmen. (Hear, hear.) And they do not go abroad to found flourishing colonies, to live in amity with the present country; but whenever they set their foot on a foreign soil, there stands a man in whose breast ripples a feeling of hostility to this country. ('Hear, hear,' and cheers.) That which is true now has been true for 70 or 80 years at least, for it is upon record that Lord North himself expressed his sense of the injury which Irishmen in America had done to England; for their courage and their hostility against this country, united, in the war of independence, was the main cause of the first and signal successes which the American forces achieved. (Cheers.)

What are the remedies? Not additional capital; for the landlords are perpetually drawing large sums from England upon mortgages on their property between the years 1837 and 1847; they thus raised not less than £14,000,000. Not emigration; for half-a-million individuals perished in the late famine, and another half-million have emigrated, so that there is not a sufficiently abundant population to till the soil properly.

"I should propose, with respect to entails, that the law should not permit any man to tie up any landed property beyond what are called 'lives in being'; that is, whosever may be mentioned in the will, that the last person mentioned to whom the property should come should be the absolute possessor of the property, and that it should not be handed on by this will to any person not born when the will was made. (Hear, hear.) That would very much limit the number of what are called 'life interests,' that is, where a man possesses an estate for his life, and his son, or somebody, comes after him; so that he spends nothing upon it, being interested only in getting out of it what he can during his lifetime, and careless whether, after that, it goes to ruin or not. With respect to another class of estates, those which are left by persons who make no will at all—If a man had 50,000 acres of land, and died without a will, if he had 10 children, the eldest son would take the whole of that land. If the father has made no provision for the younger children, they may be beggars in the country, dependent upon the elder brother; or, as the younger branches generally are, or wish to be, dependent upon the State and the public taxes. (Hear.) This, if we were not accustomed to it, would appear a frightful injustice. It is unjust to the nine children that they should have nothing, and that the one should have all. It is a gross injustice to the industry of the nation; a gross evil and injury to its social comfort, that these vast estates should be handed down under circumstances most unfavourable to the development of the resources of the land and the profitable employment of the industry of the people who live upon it. (Hear.) Let him leave it in what proportions he likes to his children; but, where he makes no award of it himself, then let the law do that which alone natural affection and common justice will sanction, that is, make an equal division of it amongst the children who survive him. (Loud cheers.) I would propose that Government should establish a complete registry of property. There is now in Ireland a registry of deeds, and there is a survey made by the Ordnance Department so minute that you might trace upon it every plot of land throughout the whole of Ireland. Now, if there was a registry of land, it would be quite competent for the buyer and seller of

an estate, or of a field, or of an acre, or of a house, to walk into a certain office in Dublin, to have a transfer of property made from the seller to the buyer, and to have a certificate of sale made out. (Hear.) Then I would take care that those expensive stamps which are now laid on the sale and purchase of property should be totally abolished, or made of merely nominal amount, so that there might be the greatest facility given for the dispersion of landed property amongst those who have money to purchase it, and industry and skill to make the best use of it. (Cheers.) With respect to the stamps upon settlements, that is a piece of injustice which the public has never yet said much about. If a man has £100,000 a year in landed property, and chooses to settle it upon his son, or son-in-law, or grandson, or anybody else, the stamp for the settlement of that enormous sum is but £25; and if you were to take one of your boys and indenture him to a first-rate surgeon as an apprentice, and pay a fee of £300 or £400 with him, you would have to pay an amount for a stamp equal to that for the settlement of this vast amount of landed property. (Hear, hear.) Now, I propose that these stamps upon sales and transfers should be abolished, or made of a nominal amount; and if there be a deficiency in the revenue, as there would be from that, I should propose that the stamps on settlements should be levied, not at a fixed sum, but *ad valorem*, rising with the amount of the property, thus making up for the deficiency caused by the abolition or the reduction of that other stamp, and acting as a discouragement upon this most pernicious system of settling landed property from generation to generation, and keeping it entirely out of the market, and away from the field of industry. ('Hear, and cheers.') I have no objection to have great landed property held by men of real property. If a man is worth half a million of money, I have no objection that he should have £500,000 worth of land; and if he has £500, let him have £500 worth of land. But let it be free. Well, now, just look what would be the case in Ireland, supposing these changes took place. At present the population is in a most helpless condition. There is not a labourer in Ireland who ever dreamed, probably, of being a prosperous and substantial farmer; scarcely ever a farmer that dreamed of being a proprietor. In this neighbourhood you find that nearly all the manufacturers were themselves, or their fathers, or grandfathers, in the ranks of labourers; they were mechanics, and so forth; and through the openings which have arisen constantly in this district, by their superior skill and industry, and by something occasionally which men call 'good fortune,' they have emerged from the ranks in which they found themselves, and have become men of capital, directors of great industry, and great benefactors to the population amongst whom they live. If land were free in Ireland, every man would have to become a proprietor; prudence would become the rule; young people, before they married, would take into consideration their future prospects; they would hope for the possession of a few acres of land, and the adding to it the next few acres, if they could save money enough; all these motives would act upon them, and there would be an emulation and a spirit of helpfulness amongst the population of Ireland which there never can be under the present system. (Hear, hear.)

He would next give security to the tenant by lease and otherwise, for his improvements on his farm.

"If, at this moment, every Irish cultivator and farmer could be told that every farthing he hereafter expended upon his land should not become the property of the landlord, but should remain his property, you would find a new spirit infused into the whole of the population; I believe it would spread a universal joy over Ireland, such as never has been known in our time."

To those social remedies he would add the political ones of enlarged and more faithful Parliamentary representation, and a reform of the present Church establishment. What were the means by which they might hope to accomplish those changes?

"Well, now, we come to the question how are we to get these changes? I believe it not to be impossible. Can we not have an union of Irishmen who understand the nature of this case? I can never lose hope of a country which numbers amongst its sons such men as Grattan and O'Connell. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) I will never despair of a people that have known how to admire their genius and to venerate their patriotism. There are, there must be, thousands of intelligent and upright men in Ireland who can comprehend the nature of the disease under which their country suffers, and who are as anxious as I am that that disease should be healed. (Hear, hear.) Well, such as these, if my voice could reach them, I would ask to come out from their quietness, to make an effort to leave their isolation, to meet together to discuss these questions, to give themselves a voice and a power, and to urge upon the people of England, and upon the Parliament, and upon the Ministry, the absolute necessity of making these changes. (Loud cheers.) Do not suppose that you will get no help from England."

There is growing up in England, and I hope in Ireland, a party so strong and so numerous, that by-and-bye it will leave out only the pauperism at one end of the scale, and, it may be, the titled and the privileged at the other; it will include almost the whole people; it will urge upon Government—united as we will be with the people of Ireland—these great questions which I have discussed to-night. If the aristocracy of the United Kingdom has heaped evils unnumbered upon Ireland, why, I ask, should not the intelligent and virtuous people of the United Kingdom make them an ample restitution? (Cheers.) And when I speak to that great party throughout this country, I would say that in all their struggles, whatsoever they may undertake, whatsoever they may accomplish, they cannot do a nobler or a better thing than to consecrate the cause of their advancing liberties by glorious and fruitful labour for the regeneration of Ireland. (The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amidst deafening cheers.)

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A DEVONSHIRE PLAYER, JUNIUS IN LUDO—For every Pawn advanced to his last square, you may demand a Queen, without reference to any pieces you may already have on the board. We have answered the same question at least a hundred times, and should have thought that every one by this time knew the law upon the subject. RUCIEN is—Philidor repeatedly played without seeing the chessboard, and only a few months before his death conducted three games at once in this manner. A NOVICE—Problem No. 309 cannot be solved as you propose to do it. J G W—It is certainly not for a two-move problem, though hardly equal to those mentioned. I B and CIVIS—All communications requiring answers the same week should reach us not later than Wednesday morning. JUNIUS—Look twice ere you speak once. White cannot mate in two moves, as you propose C P—Mr. Lowenthal has not yet arrived. 2. Probably at the St. George's Chess Club. W G—It shall have a diagram—probably next week. P F A—In the position given, if you advance the Pawn to K's 4th sq., your adversary may take it in passing, or not, as he pleases. PHILOPOEUS, Oxford—Content yourself for twelve months to come by solving good problems of others; you have evidently too little tact or experience to compose them yourself at present. J G T—You cannot be too careful in examining problems, before you submit them for publication. The commendation is very clumsy. DEREYON—Play 1. Q to her B 4th (ch), and then 2. Castles; after which, all is plain enough. E B B—Rules for "Double Chess" may be had of Leuchars, 38, Piccadilly. T W H, York—The two works named are very useful little treatises, and well adapted to prepare you for a more extended course of study. W E H—See our Solution in to-day's Number. G M, Gainsborough—In the case submitted, A is bound, if the adverse Knight is takable, to take it; and, if not, to move his King. B W T—Your diagram is illegible. | YORKICK—See our last Number. Solutions by VALLEYFIELD, M. R., ETONENSIS, TOUR, F. A. M., DEREYON, E. H. G., MURPHOS, G. S., RUCIEN, FERDINAND, DE FELD, R. P., F. G. R., BRUTUS, L. C. L., J. J. A., H. H., N. MACAIRE, YORICK, R. H. T., LANHAM, F. G. R., OTHO, E. H. G., D. G., C. P., CHATELHAM, G. M., S. U., OMICRON, BRUTUS, ASHURBY, R. M., R. P., R. V., JUVENS, M. R., are correct. Those by M. R. V. T., NOVICE, RUCIEN, D. T. B., J. P. S., CYRNO, are wrong.

* * The answers to numberless communications on the subject of Chess, are unavoidably deferred until next week.

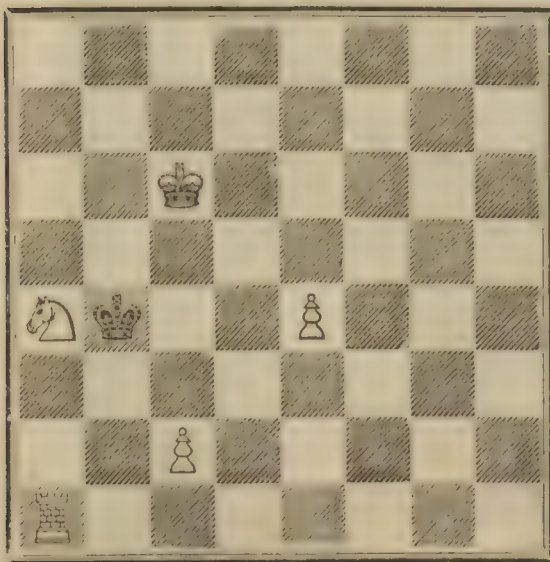
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 311.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. Q to her B 7th (ch) R takes Q 3. P to Q 4th (ch) K takes R
2. R to Q 6th Q takes B (best) 4. P to B 5th—Mate

PROBLEM NO. 312.

By Mr. A. C. McC.

BLACK.



WHITE.
White, playing first, mates in four moves.

MATCH OF CHESS BY CORRESPONDENCE

BETWEEN THE LONDON CHESS-CLUB AND THE AMSTERDAM CHESS-CLUB, FOR ONE HUNDRED GUINEAS.—TERMINATION OF THE CONTEST.

A communication, just received, from the Committee of the Amsterdam Chess-Club, brings us the gratifying intelligence that they have determined to protract the defence no longer. The match, which was to consist of a single game, is, therefore, over; the London Chess-Club fairly carrying off the honours of victory, after a struggle which, although of only fifty moves a side, has lasted nearly two years.

If the relative skill of the competitors engaged on each side were to be the gauge by which to estimate the probable result of a contest like this, it would have been easy to predict to which party victory would incline; and we should have wondered at the daring gallantry that prompted the little band of Hollanders to challenge the Levisthans of London. Experience, however, has shown that, in a Match of Chess by Correspondence, the battle is not always to the strong, and that foresight and profound calculation are of infinitely less account, when the men may be moved experimentally, than they are in ordinary Chess, where conclusions must be tried by the hand and not by the hand. Of this, indeed, the archives of the London Club itself afford a memorable instance. In March, 1824, a proposal was made to this Club by the Club at Edinburgh, to play a Match at Chess by Correspondence for a silver cup; the match to consist of a rubber of three games (irrespective of drawn games); two games to be played together, and the winner of the first game to have the move in the third. The London Club at this period was in the pride and plenitude of its strength, and the Committee appointed to conduct the Match comprised every name of note among the Chess-players of the metropolis. The Edinburgh Chess-Club, on the other hand, was composed of amateurs comparatively unknown and inexperienced, and possessed one player only, the late Mr. Donaldson, capable of making any thing like a stand over the board with any one of the London chiefs. In an ordinary contest, indeed, it was the old odds of "Lombard-street to a China orange!" Maugre all the advantages of superior skill and practice, however, the Londoners lost the battle, and lost it by a blunder as ridiculous as it was vexatious, at the very moment too when the game was in their hands.

But, to return to the present match. In the arrangements for their contest with Amsterdam, the London Club very prudently avoided the two grave errors of their predecessors—one of which consisted in their appointing too numerous a committee, and the other, in agreeing to play more than one game at a time. On the present occasion, the committee was limited to five members—Messrs. Stous, Horwitz, G. Medley, Walker, and Perigal; and as three only of these gentlemen, if we are correctly informed, took any active part in the conduct of the match, and they had but a single game to give their attention to, no great embarrassment was likely to arise, either from a multitude of opinions or the diversity of objects to be examined.

It will be seen from the following communication, which was originally transmitted by the members of the Amsterdam Chess-Club to Mr. Staunton, with a request that he would exert his influence to promote the match, and add to its interest by taking part in the struggle, that the challenge emanated from the players of Amsterdam, and not, as many suppose, from the London Chess-Club:—

"Amsterdam, Jan. 3, 1848.

"The members of the Philidor Chess-Club, of this city, although fully convinced of the superiority of the leading chess-players of your capital, and the unequal chances of a contest with your Club, but desirous of deriving some benefit from the skill and ingenuity of English players, herewith do themselves the pleasure of inviting your members to a single or double game at Chess, by correspondence, for a certain stake, the amount of which to be respectively deposited at a London and Amsterdam bankers'. Should you be disposed to accept this match, we expect to ascertain from you the amount of the stake you wish to play for, and the chief conditions upon which matters can be finally arranged; and request, at all events, an early reply.

"We remain, respectfully, your obedient servants,

"THE COMMITTEE OF THE PHILIDOR CHESS-CLUB.

"To the London Chess-Club."

* The Committee consisted, among others, of Messrs. Cochrane, Fraser, Lewis, Mercier, and Parkinson—all players of the highest mark at that time.

THE GAME.

(Irregular Opening.)

| WHITE. (Amsterdam Chess-Club.) | BLACK. (London Chess-Club.) | WHITE. (Amsterdam Chess-Club.) | BLACK. (London Chess-Club.) |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. P to Q 4th | P to K 3d | 26. B takes B | Q takes B |
| 2. P to Q B 4th | P to K B 4th | 27. Kt to K B 2d | Kt to Q Kt 3d |
| 3. Q Kt to B 3d | Kt to B 3d | 28. Q to Q B 3d (a) | Q takes Q |
| 4. P to K 3d | P to Q 3d | 29. B takes Q | R to Q K 3d |
| 5. K Kt to R 3d | R to K 2d | 30. R to Q B 2d | R to Q R 7th |
| 6. P to K B 3d | P to Q B 3d (a) | 31. K R to Q B sq | K R to Q R sq |
| 7. K Kt to B 2d | P to Q 4th (b) | 32. P to K R 3d | K R to Q R 6th |
| 8. P to Q R 3d (c) | Castles | 33. P to K 4th (f) | P to K 6th |
| 9. K B to K 2d | K to Q 3d (d) | 34. P takes P | P takes P |
| 10. P to Q B 5th (e) | B to Q B 2d | 35. Q Kt to Q sq | B takes R |
| 11. P to K B 4th (f) | Q Kt to Q 2d | 36. R takes R | R to K 8th (ch) |
| 12. P to Q Kt 4th | K to K R 3d (g) | 37. K to R 2d | Kt to Q 4th |
| 13. Q 3 to Kt 2d | R to K Kt sq (h) | 38. Q Kt to B 3d (u) | Kt takes Kt |
| 14. Q to Q B 2d | P to Q Kt 3d | 39. R takes Kt | K to Kt sq |
| 15. P takes P (i) | Q Kt takes P (k) | 40. K to Kt 3d | K to B 2d |
| 16. Q R to Q B sq (l) | Q to Q B 5th (m) | 41. K to B 3d | K to K 3d |
| 17. B takes Kt | P takes B | 42. R to K 3d (ch) (v) | R takes R (ch) |
| 18. Q Kt to Q sq | B to Q R 3d | 43. K takes R | P to Q 6th (w) |
| 19. B to Q B 3d (n) | Kt to Q 4th | 44. K to Q 3d | K to K 2d |
| 20. Castles | B to Q Kt 4th (o) | 45. Kt to K 5th | P to K 4th (x) |
| 21. R to K sq | P to Q R 4th | 46. P to K R 4th | B to Q K 3d |
| 22. Q Kt to Kt 2d | B to Q 2d | 47. P to K Kt 3d | B to Q Kt 4th |
| 23. B to Q 2d (p) | P takes P | 48. Kt to Q 7th (y) | K to Q B 5th |
| 24. P takes P | B takes P | 49. Kt to Q B 5th | K to Q Kt 5th |
| 25. K Kt to Q sq (q) | Q to Q R 4th (r) | 50. Kt to K 6th | K to Q R 6th |

AND AMSTERDAM SCRENDERED.

(a) This appears to us a most objectionable move, and to have much retarded the development of the London game. They ought rather to have Castled.
(b) To prevent the advance of the adverse K's Pawn.
(c) This was played, apparently, from apprehension of Black moving his K B to Q Kt 5th. In White's place, we should have preferred bringing out the Bishop, or even advancing the K Pawn, which leads to many striking variations. Let us suppose—

| WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 4. P to K 4th | Q takes P | 16. Kt takes Q | P to K Kt 3d |
| 5. P takes P | P takes P | 17. Kt to Kt 3d | R takes Kt (ch) |
| 6. Kt takes P | Kt takes Kt | 18. P takes Kt | R to K B 2d |
| 7. Kt takes Kt | B to Q Kt 5th (ch) | 19. K B to Q 3d | Kt to R Kt 3d |
| 8. Kt to Kt 3d | K B to Q 3d | 20. Castles on Q side | B to Q 2d, or Kt to Q B 2d |
| 9. Kt to K B 3d | K B to Q 3d | 21. K takes R P | R takes R |
| 10. Q to K B 3d | R to K B sq, or s | 22. R takes K Kt P (ch) R to B 2d | |
| 11. Q to K B 5th (ch) | Q takes Q | 23. Q R to K B sq, and White must win. | |

15. Q takes B 14. B takes Kt (ch) 17. K B to K 2d K R to Kt sq
16. Q to B 3d Q takes Q P 18. Q R to Q sq Kt to Q 2d or Q R 3d
and White has an unfettered advantage.

(d) A commanding position for the Bishop.
(e) Imprudent play, since it afforded Black an opportunity of breaking up the Pawns on the Queen's side presently.

(f) Having compromised themselves by the premature advance of the Q B P, White were obliged to throw forward this Pawn.

(g) An important step, in anticipation of White's Castling, in which case, by playing the K Kt to Kt sq, and following that with P to K Kt 4th, Black would have got a fine attack on the King's quarters.

(h) The beginning of a combination, which results in Black winning a clear Pawn.
(i) Q to her R 4th, attacking the two Pawns, would have been useless, as Black might safely have answered with P to Q Kt 4th, or Q Kt P takes P.

(j) The correct play. Far better than taking either with the Bishop or Pawn.
(k) This, in the opinion of the London players, was an error, from the ill consequences of which their opponents could never extricate themselves. It appears to have been made in utter unconsciousness that Black would ever dare to play their Kt in to Q B 5th.

(l) A move like this, by which Black voluntarily subject themselves to the apparent disadvantage of a double Pawn and the weakening of their centre, must have been the result of a most profound and accurate calculation.

(m) To enable them to Castle, which they obviously could not do before without losing the exchange.

(n) P to K Kt 4th looks inviting, and will be found to lead to many interesting variations; if White, however, make the proper reply (which is Kt to K R 3d), the result is not greatly in Black's favour.

(o) If they had taken P with P, Black would have captured the Q R P with their Bishop, secure of subsequently capturing the other Pawn.

(p) To prevent the advance of the P to Q B 6th. Suppose, instead, White had played—

| WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|----------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 25. Kt takes P | Q takes Kt | 26. B takes K B | R takes B |

Having gained a piece.
(r) The depth and accuracy of Black's calculation, when at move 16 they played the Kt to Q B 5th, is strikingly shown in the fact that their doubled Pawn, though threatened by innumerable foes, remains inviolable.

(s) If Q Kt to Q sq, the following are not improbable—

| WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| 28. Q R to R sq | Q R to Q R sq | 30. R takes R | Q takes K R (h) |
| 29. P to K R 3d | Q R to R 7th | 31. K to R 2d | Q takes K P, &c. |

(t) Instead of so playing, they might have moved either the K Kt to Q sq, or the Q Kt to Q sq. In the first place, let us suppose—

| WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 33. K Kt to Q sq | K R to Q Kt 6th | 35. K to Kt 3d | Kt to Q 4th |
| 34. K to R 2d | K R to Q Kt 5th | (White has nothing better to do). | |

And then, by playing P to Q B 6th, Black gain a piece. In the second place—

| WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|------------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 33. Q Kt to Q sq | R takes R | 35. K to R 2d | Kt to Q 4th |
| 34. R takes R | R to Q R 5th | And Black must win. | |

(u) This was well played, as it tempted Black to capture the K B Pawn; in which case the game in all probability would have been drawn.

(v) Indispensably necessary to preserve their Q Pawn.
(w) The play of Black throughout the latter stage of the game could hardly be improved. How admirably timed is the advance of this little Pawn!

(x) Black's object now is to compel their opponents to move either their King or Kt. If the former stir, the Pawn at once proceeds to Queen; and if, after the latter moves, the Black King marches to support the Pawn, and wins, of course, without trouble.

(y) All other moves are now expended, and White are forced to play the King or Cavalier.

MUSIC.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

Mendelssohn's oratorio, "St. Paul," has been revived at Exeter Hall, Costa conducting this work for the first time. This celebrated work, which by many amateurs is considered the composer's greatest production in the sacred school, and is preferred even to his much later oratorio, "Elijah," was originally produced at the De-la-salle Musical Festival, on the 22nd of May, 1835. The executants on that occasion were:—Instrumentalists, 172; chorus soprano, 105; alto, 60; tenor, 90; bass, 108; total, 535.

The first introduction of this work in England was at the Liverpool Musical Festival, October 7, 1836, thanks to the enterprise of the Novello, who had purchased the score. Sir G. Smart conducted, and Francis Cramer was leader. The principal singers were Madame Caradori (in place of poor Malibran, who died at Manchester), Mrs. Wood, Mrs. A. Shaw, Miss Birch, and Mrs. Kayvett; Messrs. Braham, J. Bennet, and Phillips.

On the 20th of October, 1837, the composer was the conductor of his own work at the Birmingham Musical Festival, the singers being Mrs. Kayvett, Miss Clara Novello, and Mrs. Shaw; Messrs. Vaughan, Bennett, Hobbs, Machin, A. Novello, and Phillips. On the 29th of June, and July 5th, 1844, Mendelssohn conducted "St. Paul" before Prince Albert and the Duke of Cambridge, at Exeter Hall. On the 2nd of June, 1845, her Majesty and Prince Albert honoured the performance of this oratorio with their presence. The singers were the Misses Birch and Dalby, Messrs. Manvers, A. Novello, Bodda, and Herr Standigl.

"St. Paul" treats of the sufferings of the first Christian Church, the accusation of Stephen, his death and funeral. Then there is the persecution of the Church by Saul, his journey to Damascus, and his hearing of the voice from Heaven. The conversion of Paul, his subsequent persecution, the calling together of the Elders of the Church of Ephesus, and his departure for Jerusalem complete the work. The chorales distributed throughout this oratorio, like the chorals in the Greek tragedy, are most important features in the construction of the work. Mendelssohn's profound acquaintance with the Bach forms is proved in the "St. Paul." There is, perhaps, more evidence of sustained power in "St. Paul" than in "Elijah," and the individuality of the composer is more marked.

The opening chorus, "Lord, thou alone art God," with the succeeding chorale, "To God on high," are very fine. The chorus in D minor, "Now this man," is dramatic in power, and prepares the way for the awful outbreak of savage fury in the "Stone him to death," from the multitude. The chorale, "To thee, O Lord," with the lovely chorus "Happy and blest," are floods of soothing and graceful harmonies, after the terrific character of the preceding chorals.

The "Sleepers, awake!" is another magnificent chorale; and the chorus "Oh great is the depth," a most splendid specimen of Mendelssohn's colouring. The entire scene of the Conversion is a sublime conception. The chorus "How lovely are the messengers," the chorale quartet "Oh! thou true and only light," the chorus "Is this he," the "Oh! be gracious," with its elegant instrumentation, and the chorus *Andante*, are amongst the most remarkable items in the second part. The solo pieces in this oratorio are of great beauty. The charming air in B flat, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem," the air, "I will sing of thy great mercies," are allotted to the soprano. The contralto air, "But the Lord is mindful of his own," is a perfect gem of melodious inspiration. The two bass songs in B minor, "O God! have mercy," and "Consume them all," are noble compositions. The tenor has some very responsible recitatives to deliver, and an elegant cavatina, with violoncello obbligato, "Be thou faithful unto death."

The general character of the music is fervent, lofty, and grand; and yet are the subjects treated with beautiful simplicity. Of its present style of execution—with Miss Catherine Hayes, Miss Dalby, Mr. A. Novello, Mr. Smythson, and Herr Fornes as principal singers—we must postpone our comments until next week, as the performance takes place after our paper is at press on Friday night.

FOREIGN MUSICAL NEWS.

(From our own Correspondent.) PARIS, Wednesday.

Meyerbeer has quitted Paris for Vienna, to mount his "Prophète," which has now been given here, at the Grand Opera, forty times—and still its career of success as great as ever. Viardot, however, will now leave us for a short time, to sing the "Prophète" in German at Berlin. The great event at the Italian Opera-house has been the welcome return of Lablache, as *Magnifico*, in "Cenerentola." He was rapturously received. Ronconi was the *Dandini*, and acted with the greatest humour. The duo between him and Lablache was a rare trial of strength—in what is called, in theatrical parlance, "gagging;" frequently the orchestra came to a stand-still at the sallies of these great comedians. Lucchesi (the new tenor), in the *Prince*, was excellent; and Middle. Angri sang brilliantly as *Cenerentola*. Altogether, the opera was finely executed.

The musical review of the year 1849 displays great enterprise in Paris, considering that revolution and cholera had to be contended against. At the Grand Opera, the production of the "Prophète," with the *débuts* of Viardot, Mme. Castellan, and M. Roger, was the grand event. The "Fanal," of Adam, of the other novelty, and the ballet of "La Filleule des Fées," by Perrot. At the Opéra Comique, the new works have been the "Caid," the "Monte-negrins," the "Tordador," and the "Fée aux Roses" of Halévy.

The total of new dramatic and musical works produced in 1849 was 143; in 1848, it was 267. The deaths of note have been those of Habeneck, Chopin, Kalkbrenner, Bandiot, Louis Sejan, Banderelli, Doche, Monera, Jules Becker, A. Festa, Strauss, Conradin Kreutzer, and Mme. Catalini. Milton and Coulton, dancers of fame, died in 1849.

MUSICAL EVENTS.—Miss Catherine Hayes sang at a concert at the Beaumont Institution, Mile-end, last Monday night. Mr. E. O. Toulmin gave a concert at the Horns, Kennington, on Tuesday night, assisted by Messrs. A. Irving, Bramley, Lefter, and Richardson (hauteut), Misses Birch and Dalby. At the twelfth of the London Wednesday Concerts, the instrumentalists were Thalberg, Ernst, and Richardson; and the vocalists, Misses Poole, Eyles, Dalby, Mrs. A. Newton, Messrs. Reeves, Land, Lefter, and Herr Fornes. Mr. John Parry's entertainment of "Lights and shadows" was given last Saturday night, at the Hanover-square Rooms, in the presence of a numerous auditory. His great operatic scenes between soprano, tenor, and basso, was much applauded, as also his solo imitative of the ophecleide.—Next Monday, at Exeter Hall, Mr. Alcott will give his annual monster concert: every available talent, native and foreign, appears in the programme.

On the same evening, Mr. Willy will give, in the room at St. Martin's Hall, his fourth concert of classical chamber music.—The anniversary festival of the Madrigal Society, founded in 1741, will be celebrated on Thursday, at Freemasons' Hall, Lord Saltoun in the chair, supported by Sir Andrew Barnard.—The meetings of the Musical Union, for the sixth season, are fixed for Tuesdays, March 19, April 9 and 23, May 7 and 21, June 4 and 18, and July 2nd.—Mr. Anderson, master of the Queen's band, and director and hon. treasurer of the Philharmonic Society, has been elected hon. treasurer of the Royal Society of Musicians, in place of the respected Mr. Parry, who has been compelled to resign, from the continuance of severe illness.—Mme. Sontag, with Calzolari, F. Lablache, &c., sang at a concert at Shettled, last Tuesday.—A new psalm, by Mr. Henry Leslie, with full orchestral accompaniments, will be shortly performed at St. Martin's Hall.—The Bach Society, of which Mr. W. S. Bennett is chairman, is now formed, the object being to collect the works of the great master, and to promote their performance.—The first meeting of the eighteenth season of the Choral Harmonists is fixed for Monday, the 21st inst., when Beethoven's Mass in C, Weber's Cantata, "The Praise of Jehovah," a Madrigal by Morley, and a selection from Weber's "Oberon," will be performed. Mr. Dando is the leader of the band, which is to be strengthened; and Mr. G. Cooper is the organist. The vocalists will be Misses Birch and Dalby, Messrs. Lockett and Lawler.—The Western Madrigal Society met last Saturday; J. Evans, Esq., president, and Mr. Turle conductor.—Next Friday, the London Sacred Harmonic Society (Surman) will perform Mendelssohn's "Elijah," at Exeter Hall.

CHARADES COMPOSED BY A LADY IN A DREAM.—My first is the name of a boy; my second, a river in Cork; my third, a game at cards; my fourth expresses a Dutch affirmation; my whole signifies "Praise."—My first is the name of a boy; my second breathes sorrow; my third urges progress; my whole signifies "Peaceful."—(Solutions in our next.)



SCENE FROM THE PANTOMIME OF "HARLEQUIN AND THE DRAGON OF WANTLEY," AT SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.

by these means, made the butt of his own confidential clerk, *Snobson* (Mr. Scharf), who extorts from him additional salaries, and a promise of his daughter's hand. The pretended Count having run off with *Seraphina*, *Snobson* gets drunk, and intrudes among the drawingroom company for the purpose of exposing his master: but being convicted as an accessory to the criminal transaction, is glad to make off. The other characters are, with one or two exceptions, the usual drawingroom appendages of the state of society portrayed. The exceptions are one *Adam Trueman*, a farmer from Catterangus (Mr. Davenport); and *Prudence*, a maiden lady of a certain age (Mrs. Parker). The former is, in fact, the grandfather of the orphan, *Gertrude*; who, being on the spot to look after his grandchild, delivers her from *Jolimaitre* and the conspiracies of her enemies. The poor girl falls into suspicion by herself contriving a plot for the exposure of the pretensions of the impostor, whereby she almost loses her grandfather's regard, and the heart of her lover, *Colonel Howard* (Mr. Belton). This confusion is partly owing to the intermeddling of *Prudence*, who forms a matrimonial design on farmer *Adam*, and in the second act makes love to him in a scene, which for freshness and originality has never been exceeded. Puritanically dressed, with an American intonation quite remarkable, Mrs. Parker has, in this character, accomplished a portrait, which, if somewhat exaggerated, exhibits, nevertheless, such points of vitality and verisimilitude that it must soon become as popular as it is indeed richly ridiculous.

Such are the materials of which this comedy is composed. Its story is indicated in the above statement; though it is necessary to detail its plot, for the drama is not dependent on story for its incident, but on the intercombination of characteristic groups and situations. We have only to add, that the play, in respect to its scenery, costume, and appointments, was magnificently mounted. Its triumph was complete. Mrs. Mowatt was, of course, called for, and was brought on the stage in an evident state of agitation, naturally consequent on the excitement of such a decided success.

At the other principal theatres, the system of revivals still continues. At *Drury*, Mrs. Nisbett appeared on Monday, in the character of *Rosalind*; on which occasion Mr. Vandenhoff performed *Jacques*, in a style remarkable for its classical conception and finish. Mr. Anderson himself was the *Orlando*, and Mr. Cooper *Old Adam*. At the *Surrey*, Mr. Creswick has, during the week, enacted *Alfred Evelyn*, in Sir E. B. Lytton's comedy of "Money;" and, at the *Marblebone*, Mr. Stirling's melodrama of "Nicholas Nickleby" has been the stock piece of the evening.

SADLER'S WELLS.

THE scene selected by the Artist from the Pantomime of "Harlequin and the Dragon of Wantley," at this theatre, is that in which the voracious Dragon gobbles up a child just as the *Baron of Wantley* is sitting down to his family dinner. After satisfying the immediate cravings of his inordinate appetite with the best of the Baron's viands, he finishes with carrying off the Baron's daughter, whom, as a delicate morsel, he reserves for a future repast. In this intention, however, the Dragon is disappointed; for *Moore of Moore-hall*, being in love with the young lady, pursues the spoiler, and, in a pugilistic encounter, gives him a blow that proves a complete "settler." Then, of course, as nothing else remains to be done, everybody is transformed, and the usual pantomimic tricks and bustle ensue.

This is a scene of genuine Pantomime: the grotesqueness of the masks is as legitimate as any five-act play.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

THE Christmas extravaganza at this theatre is from the melodrama of "Frankenstein," which many years since attracted large audiences of those who woo terror to delight themselves, in the old Lyceum Theatre. The piece was an extravagant affair *per se*; and how burlesque has heightened its absurdities, can better be told in picture than in words. The scene chosen by our Artist is the interior of the laboratory; and the situation, the fright of *Frankenstein* at the sight of the *Model Man* of his own creation. The piece, from the already practised pen of the Brothers Brough, increases in popularity on each repetition.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—OPERA COMIQUE.

ON Monday night the season commenced (for the first time in this country) with the opera, in three acts, "Le Val d'Andorre;" the music composed by Halévy, the composer of "La Juive," "Giudo et Ginevra," "Charles VI.," "L'Éclair," "Les Mousquetaires de la Reine," "La Reine de Chypre," "Le Drapier," &c.; and the libretto by M. de Saint-Georges. This work was originally produced in Paris, on the 11th of November, 1848, and was noticed in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of the 18th of November. A second article on the

opera appeared in our columns December 2nd following, from which we extract the following remarks:—"Halévy's music is delicious, full of quaint and elegant melodies, scored with consummate skill, and in the concerted pieces rising at times sublimely in dramatic intensity. It is a great work in every sense—pictorial, dramatic, and musical. The Opéra Comique will run the 'Valley of Andorra' at least a hundred nights; so, when the tide of success rolls in here, it is overwhelming." We have proved to be good prophets; it was only a few days since that the hundredth night of "Le Val d'Andorre" was celebrated in Paris, by a dinner of the composer, author, publishers, artists, &c.

The story of the "Val d'Andorre" is very interesting, in some degree resembling that of the "Maid and the Magpie." The curious republic which exists between France and Spain, in the Eastern Pyrenees, under the title of the Valley of Andorra, is the scene of action. *Stephan*, a young hunter of the chamois and bear, is attached to and is beloved by *Rose de Mai*, a servant in a widow-farmer's house, *Theresa*. He is the pet of the valley, for *Theresa* herself, and *Georgette*, another wealthy farmer, dispute his hand. A recruiting party, with *Sergeant Lejoyeux*, enter the valley to carry off a certain number of conscripts, and *Stephan's* name is drawn. *Rose de Mai* is in despair. She expects to receive through *Jacques*, a kind of *Edie Ochiltree*, a certain amount of money; and, as time presses, she is tempted to take from her mistress's desk the sum to buy *Stephan* off. Through some contrariety, *Jacques* returns minus the money, and *Rose de Mai* is accused before the Syndics, or Elders of the Valley, of domestic theft, a crime punishable with death, denounced by *Theresa* through jealousy. When it comes to the trial, *Theresa* abandons, to the astonishment of all, the accusation, and declares that she has calumniated *Rose de Mai*; but, in a quatuor, the latter is claimed as the child of *Theresa*, who consents to the union of *Rose de Mai* with *Stephan*. There is a very droll underplot of the love of *Saturnin* for *Georgette*, the scenes relieving the serious interest of the drama.

"Le Val d'Andorre" was completely successful, thanks to an excellent orchestra, Mdlle. Charton, and above all to Chollet. This admirable singer and comedian was for years the attraction of the Opéra Comique in Paris. He was the original *Fra Diavolo*, *Zampa*, and *Brasseur de Preston*. He is a most consummate comedian, full of finesse, vivacity, and spirit. His vocal powers, albeit not what they have been, for he is a veteran, are still managed with tact and taste. His "Chanson Militaire," in the third act, was earnestly encored. His accent and affectation in the military dandy were inimitable. M. Nathan was *Jacques*, M. Lac *Stephan*, M. Leroy the peasant *Saturnin*. Mdlle. Cotti was lively in *Georgette*,



SCENE FROM THE EXTRAVAGANZA OF "FRANKENSTEIN; OR, THE MODEL MAN," AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE.



SCENE FROM THE OPERA OF "LE VAL D'ANDORRE," AT THE ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

and M^{me}. Guichard judicious in *Theresa*. As the opera is more frequently played, the *ensemble* will be more complete; at present, the choral portion is the weakest. Halévy in his early operas was regarded, and with some justice, as an imitator of Meyerbeer; but his compositions are now peculiarly his own, and are completely opposed to the school of Auber. This impress of individuality, which Halévy possesses in an eminent degree, puzzles amateurs, who are but superficially acquainted with his forms and style. In the "*Val d'Andorre*," Halévy, with the greatest skill, has given a local colouring; his instrumentation is peculiarly rich and varied, and is a treat of itself to follow. The opening air of *Jacques*, with the drone bass, is quaint, clever, and original. The airs assigned to *Rose de Mai* are full of character. The *finale* of the first act is picturesque; that of the second, broad and dramatic. The trial scene is a fine conception, and the quatuor is full of genius. There can be no surprise felt at the popularity of the "*Val d'Andorre*" in Paris: its poem is replete with serious and comic situation of the greatest interest, and the music is indicative that the imagination of the composer is fertile in invention, with a thorough knowledge of his art.

THE NEW OLYMPIC THEATRE.

In our Journal of December 29 we recorded the opening of this New Theatre, which has risen, phoenix-like, from the ashes of the old house, destroyed by fire in March last; and felicitously referred to in the opening Address, a clever *pièce de circonstance* from the pen of Mr. Albert Smith.

The New Theatre has the form of an elongated horse-shoe, with but few projections, so as not to present any interruptions to sight or sound.

The Pit Seats are circular in plan, so that each person looks directly to the centre of the stage. The ceiling and proscenium are *match boarded*, and canvassed for decorations. The height from the Pit floor to the highest part of the ceiling is about 36 feet. The Stalls contain 38 sittings; the Pit will hold from 800 to 850 persons, the Boxes about 200, and the Gallery 700 to 750. The deco-

ration were entrusted to Mr. Aglio, and executed conjointly by him and his son. The ceiling is divided into four compartments, representing the Seasons—each compartment being separated by ornamental designs in the Arabesque style, connected in the centre in an ornament, giving apparent support to the chandelier. The front of the gallery and box tiers is divided into seven compartments, by the gilded and bronzed columns supporting the boxes and gallery. Each compartment in the gallery tier is decorated with arabesque ornaments, within which are introduced masks, musical instruments, and cameos, in *chiaroscuro*, on gold ground. The proscenium is intended simply to form a frame to the decorations of the stage. The decorations were designed and painted in the short space of seven weeks. The stage and machinery were designed and executed by R. J. Strachan, the well-known stage-machinist, who, as he tells us, has designed and constructed the machinery of eight of the principal London theatres. The front of the house is lighted by a large chandelier, manufactured by Mr. Apsley Pellatt. The gas-fittings were put up by Mr. J. Palmer, jun., and present several useful precautionary measures. The exact cost of the theatre has not been arrived at, but it is stated by the architect, Mr. F. W. Bushill, as under £10,000, including the cost of purchasing some adjoining property. The act drop, representing an "Italian loggia opening on a cortile," was painted by Messrs. Dayes and Gordon, and is a very creditable work.

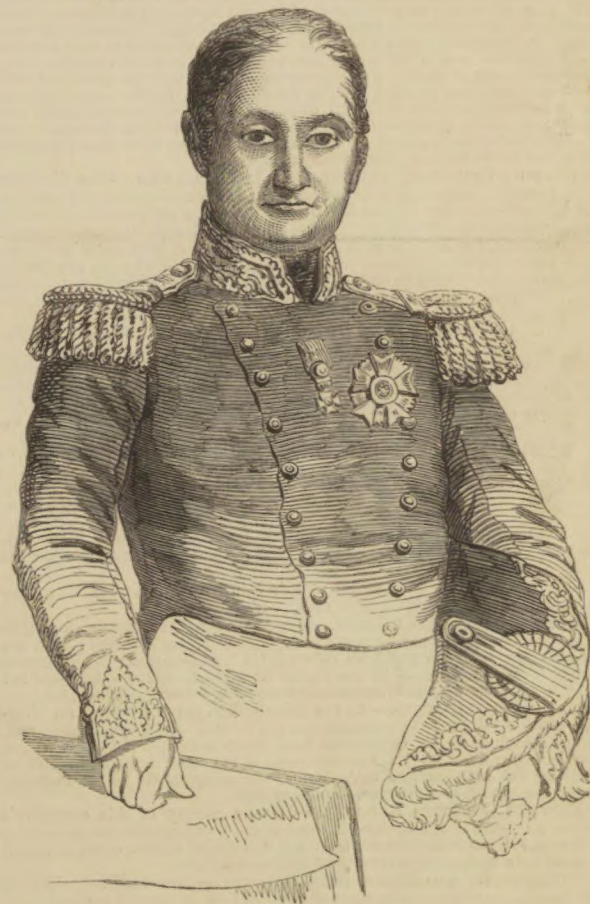
We quote these details from the *Builder*, wherein also are given some instances of construction peculiarly adapted to secure the safety and comfort of the audience. Among these are two fire-proof (stone) staircases to the gallery, one for entrance and both for exit. There are also two ways out of the pit, and separate way from stalls and boxes—so that the house may be cleared in a few minutes. The whole of the entrances, passages, &c., including staircases (slate) to the private boxes and slips, are fire-proof.

Among the commendable points of management before the curtain of this theatre is the abolition of all fees to attendants, who present gratuitously to each visitor to the boxes, stalls, and pit, a bill of the night's performances. The gratuity system, at the best, insures but an *ad valorem* degree of civility; and we hope soon to see it forbidden in all our places of amusement.

JEROME BONAPARTE.

The ex-King Jérôme has just been raised to the dignity of Marshal of France, by the following decree inserted in the *Moniteur* :—

"The President of the Republic—Considering the law of August 4, 1839: Considering that, by the effect of the law of October 11, 1848, the General of Division, Jérôme Bonaparte, was restored to the plenitude of his rights as a Frenchman, and as a general officer belonging to the active service list: Considering that, during the campaigns of 1807, 1809, and 1812, that General exercised, in virtue of Imperial decrees, the command in chief, before the enemy, of *corps d'armée* composed of several divisions of different arms: That in 1813, and



JEROME NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

later in 1815, on the field of battle of Waterloo, he was again at the head of a division of the army, and was one of the last to return his sword to its scabbard when the enemy invaded France: On the report of the Minister of War, come to in a Council of Ministers, decrees: Art. 1. The General of Division Jérôme Bonaparte is raised to the dignity of Marshal of France; Art. 2. The Minister of War is charged with the execution of the present decree.—Done at the Elysée National, the 1st Jan., 1850.—The President of the Republic, LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.—(Countersigned) D'HAUTPOUL, Minister of War."

To these official data it may be interesting to add an outline of Jérôme's eventful life.

Jérôme Napoleon Bonaparte, the youngest of the brothers of Napoleon, was born at Ajaccio, in the island of Corsica, on the 15th of November, 1784. He was educated in the college of Juilly, in France, which, after the departure of his brother for Egypt, he left, in order to enter the Marines. In 1801, he accompanied his brother-in-law, Le Clerc, in the expedition to St. Domingo, in quality of Lieutenant, and soon afterwards returned to France with the despatches of that General, when he was appointed to the command of *L'Epervier* frigate, in which he sailed to Martinique. Driven from his cruising station here by English vessels, he touched at the North American coast; and there, in 1803, married a Miss Elizabeth Patterson, the daughter of a Baltimore merchant. When the young couple came to Europe, in 1805, Napoleon would not receive the bride as a member of the Imperial family; and at length, not without opposition on the part of the young sailor, the marriage was annulled, after one or two children had been born.

Shortly after, when Napoleon was in Italy, Jérôme repaired to Genoa, and there received orders to demand of the Dey of Algiers the Genoese who were detained in slavery; and he brought back the captives, 250 in number. Napoleon sent Jérôme to Brest, and gave him the command of a 74-gun ship, one of a squadron sent to Martinique; and in the spring of that year, Jérôme was raised to the rank of Rear-Admiral. Napoleon was, however, disappointed in his brother's naval qualifications, and he soon transferred his services to land, by appointing him to the command of a corps of Bavarians and Wurtembergers, in Silesia, and he afterwards attained the rank of General of Division.

In 1806, Jérôme had the kingdom of Westphalia created for him, out of certain Prussian and Hessian provinces, and other fragments of the dissolved German empire; and he received a Royal bride, in the Princess Katharina, the daughter



INTERIOR OF THE NEW OLYMPIC THEATRE, STRAND.

of the King of Wurtemberg, taking up his residence at Cassel. He continued an unpopular system of government until the war with Russia, when, by order of his brother, he was put at the head of a French division. He at first led with some success, but was afterwards surprised by the enemy, in consequence of which Napoleon sharply rebuked him, and sent him back to Cassel.

The remainder of his career is thus sketched in an able paper on "the Bonaparte Family," in the *North British Review*, No. 21:—

"Retaining nominally the Crown of Westphalia, even after the disastrous result of the Russian campaign, in which he took so conspicuous a part, he was obliged finally to resign it in 1814, receiving from his father-in-law the title of Prince de Montfort. Flying to his brother's side in 1815, he held a command at Waterloo; and it was to him that Napoleon left the task of collecting the wreck of the French army after the defeat. On his brother's deportation to St. Helena, Jérôme rejoined his wife in Wurtemberg, where, shielded by her affection against the harshness even of her own father, who would willingly have separated her from a man so fallen in fortune, he continued to reside for some years in comparative wealth and comfort, as a German nobleman and landowner. He was able to purchase property in Italy and in Switzerland, in both of which countries he occasionally resided after 1822. In 1835 he lost his excellent and devoted wife, who died at Lausanne, leaving three children—two sons and a daughter. The daughter was married (1841) to the Russian Count Demidoff; the elder son died in 1847, leaving the title of Prince de Montfort to his brother Napoleon-Paul."

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

YORK, NEWCASTLE, AND BERWICK.—COMPROMISE WITH MR. HUDSON.—A special general meeting of this company was held on Tuesday in the De Grey Rooms, York, called by the directors, to consider, first, an arrangement with the directors of the Great North of England Company, extending the time for payment of the purchase-money of that line; and, secondly, an agreement or compromise between the new directors and Mr. Hudson, by which all legal proceedings taken against that gentleman were to be abandoned on his paying a stipulated sum to the company. The meeting was pretty numerously attended. A resolution confirming the first arrangement having been agreed to, the Chairman explained the terms of agreement with Mr. Hudson. The substance of it was, that in respect of all matters for which bills in equity were to be filed, the company should receive the sum of £50,000; and the £41,000 which had been paid out of the funds of the company for 2345 shares of the Sunderland Docks was to be refunded to this company, £15,000 of it being taken to pay the last instalment due on the 3000 shares they had agreed to take, and that the remaining £26,039 10s. be paid to this company. In the meantime, these shares, which now stood in the name of Mr. Hudson and some of his friends, were to be transferred to the directors as security for the payment of the money; and in still further security, the directors were to have placed in their hands the title-deeds of unencumbered property, which, together with the shares, the directors believed would secure to the company the payment of the money. Besides these sums, there were other claims of the company on Mr. Hudson, which were to be paid in full. There was a note of hand which he owed the company, which was nearly due; there were calls due on certain shares, all of which were to be paid up; and the dividends which stood due to Mr. Hudson on a great number of shares would be given up, and not claimed; so that the shareholders would perceive the amount of money now to be received from Mr. Hudson exceeded the sum of £100,000. The shareholders were reminded that during the past year the labours of the two committees had brought into the coffers of the company upwards of £90,000, and the sums now to be received would exceed £100,000 more. Mr. Hudson was to pay all expenses incurred in the proceedings. A resolution confirming and adopting this arrangement was passed, after some discussion, in the course of which an amendment was negatived.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN.—The inhabitants of Warwick propose to hold a meeting to take into consideration the propriety of memorialising the directors of the London and North-Western, to open the Rugby and Leamington Railway with all practicable expediency.

SAMBRE AND MEUSE, Jan. 10.—Half-yearly Meeting: London: W. P. Richards, Esq., in the chair.—The report stated that such arrangements had been made with the Belgian Government for increasing the tariff on the line, as would, it was believed, have the effect, combined with the strictest economy, of giving a small profit on the working. The directors had entered into a provisional agreement, subject to the approval of the shareholders, by which the company were to give up all their claims on the contractors, amounting to about £24,000, and surrender to them 1240 of their shares, with £16 paid, as though they were paid in full, the contractors abandoning the remainder of their contract, by which £30,000 or £40,000 might be saved to the company. The directors thought it would be desirable to endeavour to raise £200,000 to complete the line to Vireux, without which it could not be expected to pay any fair amount of profit. The report was adopted; but the agreement with the contractors was referred back to the directors for further negotiation, the shareholders objecting to giving the shares up to the contractors as though they were paid in full. It was also resolved to apply to the Belgian Government for a guarantee of five per cent. on the £200,000 proposed to be expended on the extension line to Vireux. The meeting then separated.

LONDON, BRIGHTON, AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.—The directors have decided to recommend a dividend of 48s. per £100 of consolidated stock for the past half-year, after laying aside £15,000 towards a reserve fund, as notified in their last half-yearly report.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—A jury have just made their award for compensation in respect of land required by this company in the construction of their Coventry and Nuneaton line. In the first case the claim was £9578, and the jury awarded £1850; in the second case the claim was £6843, and the jury awarded £1830.

MAIL COMMUNICATION WITH THE SOUTH OF IRELAND.—The arbitrator, Jonathan Henn, Esq., to whom the question of compensation for the carriage of the mails to Cork, Limerick, and Waterford, by the Great Southern and Western Railway, was referred, has decided upon granting the company 4s. 6d. per mile for the night mail, and 1s. per mile for the day mail. It will amount to upwards of £40,000. The cost of carriage by mail coach under the old régime was £13,000 a mile.

OXFORD, WORCESTER, AND WOLVERHAMPTON.—Memorials have just been presented by Lord Redesdale, on behalf of the inhabitants of various places on the route of this railway, to the Commissioners of Railways, urging upon them to compel the immediate resumption and completion of the works on this line.

LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE.—The Barnsley branch of this company's line was opened on Tuesday last. It passes through the largest coal-fields in the country.

SOUTH WALES.—The section of this company's line, from Chepstow to Swansea, is to be opened in April next.

RAILWAYS OPENED IN 1849.—It appears that the aggregate length of English railways opened for traffic in the year 1849, was 750 miles; of Scotch railways 73½ miles; and of Irish railways 114 miles—making the aggregate length of railways opened in the United Kingdom during the past year 937 miles, being 270 miles less in extent than those opened during the year 1818.

RATING OF RAILWAYS.—At the Macclesfield petty sessions, on Monday, it was decided that an assessment on the London and North-Western line, in that township, should be reduced from £1500 to £600 per mile; and on the station, from £200 to £112. Another appeal of the same company, against an assessment of £200 per mile in Adlington, was compromised by the overseers consenting to reduce the amount to £30 per mile.

EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.—From a survey of this company's line in the parish of St. Matthew, Bethnal-green, it appears that the assessment of the railway has been increased from £3760 to £7500, against which an appeal is about to be made at the approaching Middlesex sessions.

SHREWSBURY AND BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY.—The traffic receipts on this line are, notwithstanding the low fares, said to be about £450 per week. The line is thirty miles in length, and was opened throughout on the 12th of November last.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC AND THE CHOLERA.—From a comparison of the aggregate amount of traffic on railways in the United Kingdom between the 22nd of August and the 3rd of November, 1849, with the traffic of the corresponding periods of preceding years, it has been estimated that the falling off in the traffic, in consequence of the cholera at that period, amounted to £155,000. In the week ending the 25th of August, the falling off amounted to £5000; of the week ending 1st of September, to £9000; 8th of September, to £19,000; 15th of September, to £25,000; 22nd of September, to £30,000; 29th of September, to £26,000; 6th of October, to £20,000; 13th of October, £13,000; 20th of October, £6000; and the 27th of October, £2000. It appears, also, that the whole amount of this traffic was lost, because there is no corresponding increase shown in the traffic during the remainder of the year to make up the deficiency. In addition to this, the traffic on the northern lines of railway was seriously reduced, for several months prior to the period mentioned, from the same cause. Were it not for that deficiency, the aggregate amount of the railway traffic for the year 1849 would have amounted to £11,168,800, instead of to £11,013,800.

The British Beneficent Institution has been joined by Sir R. P. Jodrell, Bart., Sir C. R. Price, Bart., Lord Skelmersdale, Sir James Bathurst, Lord Leigh, Colonel Lindsey, M.P., Viscount and Viscountess Seaham, James W. Frothingham, Esq., and Sir J. C. Thorold, Bart.

The committee appointed to conduct the case of the Rev. James Shore, on the prosecution of the Bishop of Exeter, have just brought their labours to a close: the total amount placed at their disposal by the public was £614 2s. 7d., of this amount, £255 15s. 10d. (including £310 16s. 4d., paid to the Bishop of Exeter, the cost of the proceedings in the Court of Arches) has been expended; and the balance, £358 8s. 9d., handed over to Mr. Shore.

At the Custom House of Newcastle, last week, Messrs. Boldermann, Borries, and Co., reported the Swedish vessel *Dube*, Captain M. Lundahl, from Riga, with a cargo of timber. This is the first vessel, arrived in the Tyne which comes under the regulations of the New Navigation Act.

At Tunbridge the roof of the Free School burst into flames between one and two o'clock on Saturday morning last. The dormitories were under repair, and the scholars being absent, the fire is supposed to have originated from the carelessness of the workmen. It was nearly an hour before water could be obtained. By three o'clock, Dr. Wheldon, the master, assisted by the inhabitants, succeeded in extinguishing the flames, which were confined to three of the attics. The loss is estimated at £200.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

From the changeable state of the weather for the last fortnight, scarcely any of the coursing meetings, of which notice had been given, have "come off," and field-sports in general have been at a stand-still. For the same reason, while we consider it right to give the present fixtures for the ensuing week, they must be received with the customary prefix at this season, "weather permitting." They show little promise of sport of any interest, Bramley alone appearing in the steeple-chase calendar (for Tuesday next), and in the coursing appointments being confined to Middleham, on Wednesday and Thursday, the Amicable Club, on Thursday and Friday (but where none save the members can tell), and the Lytham New Club, on the same days. As we intimated in our last, the list of January entries are highly gratifying in all quarters, subsequent additions even having made the Chester Cup very considerably better than the accounts first published led us to anticipate. On the whole, we look for a brilliant racing season.

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—A full attendance this afternoon, and some brisk business transacted on the Chester Cup and Derby, at quotations tallying, with few exceptions, with those last week published. There is every prospect of both events being heavy betting races.

| LEAMINGTON STEEPLE-CHASE. | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 15 to 1 agst Rattrap (t) | 15 to 1 agst Peter Simple (t) | 50 to 1 agst Rescue (t) |
| 15 to 1 — Knight of Gwynne (t) | 20 to 1 — Sir John (t) | 50 to 1 — Silent Friend (t) |
| | 30 to 1 — Farnham (t) | 50 to 1 — The Hero (t) |
| CHESTER CUP. | | |
| 40 to 1 agst John Cosser | 66 to 1 agst Mounseer (t) | 100 to 1 agst Harriott (t) |
| 40 to 1 — Lady Evelyn | 77 to 1 — Sir Richard (t) | 100 to 1 — Clarissa (t) |
| 50 to 1 — Malton | 89 to 1 — Horn of Chase (t) | 100 to 1 — Hotspur (t) |
| 66 to 1 — Lismahago (t) | 100 to 1 — The Baroness (t) | 100 to 1 — Snowstorm (t) |
| 66 to 1 — Clermont (t) | 100 to 1 — Cockermouth (t) | 100 to 1 — Collingwood (t) |
| 66 to 1 — Glaucus (t) | 100 to 1 — Melody (t) | |

| DERBY. | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 8½ to 1 agst Bolingbroke (t) | 15 to 1 agst The Italian | 25 to 1 agst Clincher |
| 10 to 1 — Ghillie Callum | 17 to 1 — Voltigeur | 30 to 1 — Mavors |
| 12 to 1 — Knight of Avenel | 17 to 1 — The Nigger | 100 to 1 — Python (t) |

THURSDAY.—A very moderate amount of unimportant business was transacted, at the undermentioned prices:—

| LIVERPOOL STEEPLE-CHASE. | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 15 to 1 agst Sir John (t) | 20 to 1 agst Vain Hope (t) | 33 to 1 agst Farnham (t) |
| CHESTER CUP. | | |
| 50 to 1 agst Dough (t) | 66 to 1 agst Ellerdale (t) | 66 to 1 agst Horn of Chase (t) |
| DERBY, 1850. | | |
| 8½ to 1 agst Bolingbroke | 13 to 1 agst Knight of Avenel (t) | 100 to 6 agst Voltigeur (t) |
| 10 to 1 — Ghillie Callum | | 30 to 1 — Mavors |
| OAKS. | | |
| 8 to 1 agst Probity (t) | | |
| DERBY, 1851. | | |
| 5000 to 75 agst Ipsus (t) | | |

IRELAND.

THE PROTECTION MOVEMENT.—The address to the Queen, prepared by the committee of which Lord Glengall is chairman, now bears the signatures of 54 Peers, 22 Members of Parliament, 23 Baronets, 111 Lieutenants, together with the signatures of magistrates, clergymen, barristers, doctors, attorneys, merchants, and tenant-farmers.

THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS OF DESIGN.—A letter from the Board of Trade states, that their Lordships object to the admission of affluent persons into the Government Schools of Design, unless at rates of payment equal to those usually charged by private drawing-masters.

CORK SCHOOL OF DESIGN.—This institution was formally opened on Monday. The president, James Roche, Esq., took the chair. An inaugural address was delivered by Mr. Willis, the principal of the school. The Mayor of Cork, Sir Thomas Lyons, and Mr. Fagan, M.P., severally addressed the assembly.

THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE, GALWAY.—Mr. Edward Berwick is promoted to the presidency of Galway College, vacant by the death of the Rev. Mr. Kirwan. The vice-president is Father O'Toole, late Professor of Logic in the Irish College at Paris.

EARLY CLOSING IN DUBLIN.—A very praiseworthy movement on this head, in following the example of London, was commenced last week, when a meeting of drapers' assistants was held, and resolutions agreed to, for effecting the object of obtaining from their employers reasonable time for instruction and recreation.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—On Monday, Mr. John O'Connell took the opportunity to reiterate his determination to retire from English Parliamentary life. The rent for the week was £14 4s. 5d.

IRON SHIP-BUILDING IN CORK.—Mr. Pike is building an immense iron vessel at his iron ship-building yard, Hargrave's-quay. She is intended for the New York trade when completed, which it is expected will be in June next, and is to be commanded by an experienced mariner, a native of Cork.—Captain Hall. This vessel will be steam propelled, and her tonnage is computed at 1400 tons.

PRICE OF MEAT.—A blow is aimed at the monopoly of butchers in their unreasonable price of meat in Dublin. Some large consumers, it is ascertained, have with success made the experiment of contracting with butchers in a distant part of the county, by which they have, at the price of 3½d. per lb., as good beef and mutton as they can purchase in Dublin for 6d.

EMIGRATION.—The number of emigrants who embarked from Galway during the year ended 31st of December, 1849, amounted to 1958 males, 1832 females, with 144 cabin passengers: in all, 3934. From Belfast the numbers have been:—Total in 1849, 9550; ditto, 1848, 8730; increase in 1849, 920. Emigrants who have embarked from Dublin for the United States in the quarter ended 31st December, 1849:—Cabin passengers, 19; steerage, 724; children, 284; total, 1027.

ARRAERS IN THE COMMON-LAW COURTS.—At the commencement of the ensuing Hilary Term, beginning yesterday (Friday), the common-law courts proceed with the arrears, after hearing applications, in causes lately heard, for new trials. The lists of the three courts present a remarkable appearance, the aggregate number of arrears, exclusive of the Crown paper, exhibiting only 281. The lists of the Court of Queen's Bench show 142, the Common Pleas 61, and the Exchequer 74. With respect to the Queen's Bench, the lists are comparatively light. There is not a single rule for a new trial standing for judgment; and with regard to special cases and demurrers, there are only two for judgment, whilst there are 53 for argument. On the New Trial Paper, there are 87 rules. In the Common Pleas, there is one enlarged rule in the Kemanet Paper, 18 new trial rules, 11 matters for judgment, and 31 demurrers. In the Court of Exchequer, there are nine rules in the Peremptory Paper, three demurrers, nine special cases, 10 matters standing for judgment, and 47 rules for new trials.

POLICE RATE.—In the Marylebone Vestry a discussion was raised on Saturday last relative to a communication from Sir George Grey upon the subject of the police rate. Sir George Grey returned for answer that he did not at present contemplate any alteration in the existing law. The vestry consider themselves greatly ill-used, since the hon. Baronet had previously admitted to a deputation the inequality of the assessment which existed with regard to this parish, and expressly stated that steps would be taken to compel other parishes within the police district to contribute an equal quota to the support of the police. A motion was ultimately carried that Sir George Grey should be written to, stating the regret felt by the board at the nature of his communication, and requesting to be informed whether the revision of the rentals of the adjoining counties had yet been completed.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Consols register an advance of ½ per cent., having during the week marked 1 per cent. improvement upon the preceding week's prices. Monday being the first transfer day, Money Stock became more plentiful, and Consols closed at 97. An advance of about ½ per cent. succeeded on Tuesday, and on Wednesday an additional ½ per cent. advance was quoted. Realising, however, on Thursday, slightly checked the party for the rise, Consols receding to 97½. New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents have been bought and sold at par; the guarantee against any reduction below three per cent. until after 1873, rendering them a favourite stock with parties who credit the rumour of a reduction in the interest of Consols, which, as before remarked in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, is, in the best quarters, believed to be a mere stock-jobbing report, given currency by the parties at present interested for the rise. Exchequer Bills maintain their high quotations, the premium being greater than the whole year's interest on the bills. India Bonds, also, continue to advance. The firmness of these floating securities still indicate that, as far as the public are concerned, Consols are not regarded as a good investment, at the present price, during the still uncertain state of Continental affairs. The superabundance of money has induced Messrs. Overend and Co., the celebrated bill-brokers, to give notice of a reduction in the rate of interest to 1½ per cent. on all money left "at call." This, again, favours the speculators, by enabling them to borrow cheaply, and thus carry forward the accounts they cannot close; added to which, the public usually invest a certain proportion of their dividends. At the close of the week there was rather less doing; prices being—for Bank Stock, 209; Reduced, 97½; Consols, 97½; New 3½ per Cent. Annuities, 99½; Long Annuities, to expire Jan., 1860, 8 9½; India Stock, 266; India Bonds, £1000, 101 pm.; Ditto, under £1000, 97 pm.; South Sea Stock, Old Annuities, 97; Bank Stock for Account, 209; Consols for Account, 97½; India Stock for Account, 266; Exchequer Bills, £1000, June, 62 pm.; Ditto, £500, June, 62 pm.; Ditto, Small, June, 62 pm.

The Foreign Market has been buoyant, Peruvian and Buenos Ayres registering an advance, nearly all the other descriptions of foreign investments also showing improvement. Peruvian quotes 63; Buenos Ayres, 49. Russian Stock has also improved, quoting 110 to 111. Mexican has not materially varied. At the close of the week prices stood—for Brazilian Bonds, 89; Ditto, New, 1829 and 1839, 87; Buenos Ayres Bonds, Six per Cent., 49; Danish Bonds, 1825, Three per Cent., 73; Ditto, Five per Cent., 101; Equador Bonds, 33; Mexican, Five per Cent., 1846, Ex. Jan. Coupons, 29½; Ditto, Account, 29½; Peruvian Bonds,

Four per Cent., 63; Ditto, Deferred, 21; Portuguese, Four per Cent., 37; Venezuela Bonds, Two-and-a-Quarter per Cent., Deferred, 10; Belgian, Four-and-a-Half per Cent., 89½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cent., 12 Guild., 56; Ditto, Account, 55½; Ditto, Four per Cent., Certifcates, 36½.

Shares have fluctuated, and in some instances a rise has been maintained. This may be instanced in the cases of the South-Western, Brighton, Midland, and North-Westerns. The following are the closing prices of the lines last dealt in:—Aberdeen, Preference, 1 dis.; Bristol and Exeter, 58; Buckinghamshire, 17½; Caledonian, 10½; Ditto, New £10 Pref., 8; Eastern Counties, 7½; Ditto, New, Guaranteed Six per Cent., 11½; Eastern Union, Class A (late E. U. Shares), 10½; Great West., 59½; Great Northern, 20; Do., Five per Cent. Pref., 10½; Great West., 59½; Do., Half Shares, 28; Do., Qr. Shares, 13½; Do., Fifth, 10½; Ditto, New, £17, 7½; Hull and Selby, 98½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, New, Guaranteed Six per Cent., 12½; London and Blackwall, 3½; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 79½; Ditto, New, £5, Guaranteed Six per Cent., 137½; London and Greenwich, 104; London and North-Western, 112; Ditto, New Quarters, 13; Ditto, Fifth, 13; London and South-Western, 63; Midland, 44; Ditto, Consol. Pref. £50 Shares, 7½; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 20; Ditto, Consolidated Bristol and Birmingham, Six per Cent., 125; North British, Pref., 5½; North Staffordshire, 7½; Reading, Guildford, and Reigate, 16½; Scottish Midland, 14; South Staffordshire, 5; South-Eastern, No. 2, 14½; Ditto, No. 3, 18½; Wear Valley, 6 per Cent., Guaranteed, 25½; York, Newcastle, and Berwick (Newcastle Extension), 11; Ditto, G.N.E. Preference, 2½; York and North Midland, 18; Boulogne and Amiens, 7½; Central of France (Orleans and Vierzon), 13½; Luxembourg, 2½; Namur and Liege, 7½; Northern of France, 1½ dis.; Orleans and Bordeaux, 3½; Paris and Rouen, 23½; Paris and Strasbourg, 6½; Rouen and Havre, 10.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Notwithstanding that the receipts of English wheat up to our market, during the present week, have been very moderate, the demand for that grain, owing to the large imports of foreign flour, has ruled heavy, and in some instances the quotations have receded 1s. per quarter, without effecting a clearance of the stands. Really fine foreign wheats have been held at full prices; but all other kinds have had a downward tendency. The sale for flour has fallen off; in the currencies, however, we have no change to report. Fine malted barley has sold steadily; all other kinds slowly, at late rates. So little has been doing in malt, that the quotations have ruled almost nominal. Good sound oats have commanded full rates of value. Damp qualities have been neglected. Beans, peas, and meal have gone off heavily.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 39s to 45s; ditto, white, 41s to 50s; Norfolk an 1 Suffolk, red, 39s to 41s; ditto, white, 43s to 45s; rye, 22s to 24s; grinding barley, 21s to 25s; distilling ditto, 24s to 26s; malted ditto, 26s to 30s; Norfolk and Lincoln malt, 53s to 55s; brown ditto, 48s to 48s; Kingston and Ware, 54s to 57s; Chevalier, 57s to 58s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire fine oats, 13s to 16s; potato ditto, 18s to 21s; Troughtal and Cork, black, 13s to 15s; ditto, white, 14s to 16s; tick beans, new, 25s to 27s; ditto, old, 23s to 31s; grey peas, 28s to 27s; maple, 27s to 29s; white, 27s to 28s; boilers, 29s to 31s, per quarter. Town-mad flour, 35s to 40s; Suffolk, 30s to 35s; Stockton and Yorkshire, 30s to 33s, per 280 lbs.—Foreign: Danzig red wheat, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; barley, —s to —s; oats, —s to —s; beans, —s to —s; peas, —s to —s per quarter. Flour, American, 21s to 24s per barrel; Baltic, —s to —s per barrel.

The Seed Market.—For all kind of seeds, as well as cakes, the demand has ruled heavy during the whole of the week, and prices have had a downward tendency. Linseed, English, sowing, 54s to 56s; Baltic, crushing, 38s to 44s; Mediterranean and Odessa, 42s to 46s; hempseed, 32s to 34s per quarter; coriander, 16s to 20s per cwt.; brown mustard seed, 8s to 11s; white do. 6s 6d to 9s 6d; tares, 4s 6d to 4s 9d per bushel. English rapeseed, new, £29 to £32 per last of ten quarters; linseed cakes, English, £8 10s to £10 0s; ditto, foreign, £6 0s to £8 0s per 1000; rapeseed cakes, £4 5s to £4 10s per ton; canary, 80s to 86s per quarter. English clover-seed, red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, up to —s. Foreign, red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d to 7d; of household ditto, 5d to 6d per 4lb loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 40s 6d; barley, 25s 11d; oats, 15s 10d; rye, 24s 11d; beans, 26s 11d; peas, 28s 5d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 39s 5d; barley, 26s 7d; oats, 16s 0d; rye, 23s 8d; beans, 27s 8d; peas, 29s 3d.

Price on Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 1s 0d; barley, 1s 0d; oats, 1s 0d; rye, 1s 0d; beans, 1s 0d; peas, 1s 0d.

Tea.—A steady business has been done in common sound Congous, at 10½d to 11d per lb. Common Twankays have commanded rather more money. In the value of other kinds of tea we have no change to notice.

Sugar.—The demand for all kinds of colonial sugar has ruled very steady this week, at an advance in the quotations of 6d per cwt. Foreign sugars have produced very full prices. Refined goods have moved off slowly. Brown lumps have produced 49s to 49s 6d; and fair grocery, 50s to 51s p.cwt. English crushed, steady.

Coffee.—Higher prices have been again paid for native Ceylons; nearly 25s 6d bags have changed hands, at 65s to 65s 6d per cwt. Plantation and most other kinds are 1s to 2s per cwt. dealer than last week.

Rice.—As the dealers are mostly short of stock, the demand has improved, and prices have risen 3d to 6d per cwt.

Provisions.—Dutch butter is very dull in sale, and somewhat lower to purchase. Fine Friesland is selling at 86s to 94s; and middling and surplus, 50s to 70s per cwt. Fine Irish butter supports late rates; but the inferior qualities are easier, although the deliveries are on the increase. Carlow, firsts, landed, 72s to 80s; Clonmel and Kilkenny, 70s to 76s; Cork, 70s to 72s; Waterford, 68s to 68s; Limerick, 55s to 66s; and Sligo, 58s to 62s per cwt. A few sales have taken place on board. Fine English butter is firm, and quite as dear, with very small supplies on offer. Other kinds are dull. Fine Dorset, 54s to 90s; inferior, 56s to 70s per cwt; fresh, 8s to 13s per dozen lbs. Very little is doing in Irish bacon, owing to the firmness on the part of the holders. Waterford sizeable, landed, 43s to 47s; and heavy, 40s to 43s per cwt. Small Hamburg bacon, 40s to 42s; and American, 34s to 38s per cwt. No change in hams and tierce middles. Irish hams are lower.

Tallow.—Our market is flat, owing to the heavy stock, and prices are barely supported. P.Y.C. on the spot, is selling at 38s to 38s 6d; and, for forward delivery, 38s per cwt. Town tallow, 38s 3d to 38s 6d per cwt. net cash.

Oils.—Lined oil has further improved 20s per ton. Otherwise, the market is inactive.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 10s to £3 15s; clover ditto, £3 5s to £4 15s; and straw, £1 3s to £1 9s per load.

Coals.—Holywell Main, 16s 6d; Heaton, 17s; Riddell, 16s 9d; Whitefell, 16s 6d; Thornley, 17s 6d; Tees, 18s 6d per ton.

Spirits.—The sale for brandy continues steady, at fully last week's prices. Fine Jamaica rum is steady, and quite as dear; but all other qualities are very dull. No change in Geneva; but rum spirits are 3d per gallon lower.

Hops.—The demand for most kinds has somewhat improved; in prices, however, no change has taken place.

Wool.—Privately, the demand is steady, and late rates are well supported.

Potatoes.—Prime qualities are in good request, at 90s to 120s per ton. In other kinds, very little business is doing.

Smithfield.—55th beasts and sheep have commanded a steady sale, at full prices; but calves and pigs have met a slow inquiry.

Beef. From 3s 0d to 4s 2d; mutton, 3s 0d to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 0d; and pork, 3s 4d to 4s 2d per lb, to sink the offals.

Neugate and Leadenhall.—These markets have ruled tolerably steady, on the following terms:— Beef, from 2s 6d to 3s 6d; mutton, 2s 8d to 3s 10d; veal, 3s 0d to 3s 10d; and pork, 2s 8d to 4s 2d per lb, by the carcass.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JAN. 4.

FOREIGN OFFICE, JAN. 4.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint John Barton, Esq., now British Vice-Consul at Calcutta, to be her Majesty's Consul at that port.

WHITEHALL, DEC. 29.

The Lord Chancellor has appointed Benjamin John Holloway, of Thame, in the county of Oxford, Gent., to be a Master Extraordinary in the High Court of Chancery.

WAR-OFFICE, JAN. 4.

NEW BOOKS, &c.

Will be ready with the Magazine for February, price Two Shillings, **THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON READING BOOK.** Containing a Series of Lessons on the most amusing and instructive subjects, selected with great care from the best English Authors, in Prose and Verse. The whole beautifully and copiously illustrated with Plates elucidating the Lessons. Published at the Office of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, 198, Strand; and sold by all Booksellers.

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SEASONABLE PRESENTS.—At this festive period of the year, the following unrivalled discoveries for the toilet are called into increased requisition, namely, ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL, for creating and sustaining a luxuriant hair; ROWLANDS' KAY OIL, for rendering the skin soft, fair, and blooming; and ROWLANDS' OIL, or Pearl Dentifrice, for imparting a pearl-like whiteness to the teeth. The patronage of Royalty throughout Europe, and the high appreciation by rank and fashion, with the well known infallible efficacy of these articles, give them a celebrity unparalleled, and render them a peculiarly elegant and seasonable present.—Beware of spurious Imitations. The only genuine of each bears the name of "Rowlands," preceding that of the article on the wrapper or label.—Sold by them at 20, Hatton-garden, London; and by respectable chemists and perfumers.

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INVESTMENT.—THE DIRECTORS of the METROPOLITAN SEWAGE MANURE COMPANY (Incorporated 1845), being about to extend the sphere of their operations, are ready to receive applications for ADDITIONAL SHARES. The reports and estimates of profits, &c. may be had, post free, or on personal application, at the Offices, 58, Pall-mall. By order of the Board, A. GREIG, Secretary.

ABBOTT and SON'S PALE ALE.—Bow Brewery, Middlesex.—Brewers, by special appointment, to his Royal Highness Prince Albert.—Private Families and Clubs are respectfully informed that a beautiful description of light Ale may now be obtained from the above Brewery, at 3s. 4d., and 6s. per barrel of 36 gallons—the rate of 2s. per barrel being allowed if paid for on delivery. Supplied in 9, 18, and 36 gallon casks. Delivered in London daily, and the suburbs twice a week. Porter, Stout, and Strong Ale in casks and bottles.—City Office, 98, Gracechurch-street.

METCALFE and CO.'S NEW PATTERN TOOTH-BRUSH and SMYRNA SPONGES.—The Tooth-brush searches thoroughly into the divisions, and cleanses them in the most extraordinary manner; hairs never come loose, &c. Peculiarly penetrating Hair-brushes, with the durable unbleached Russia bristles, which will not soften like common hair. Improved Clothes-brush, that cleans harshly in one-third the time; an immense Stock of genuine unbleached Smyrna Sponges, at METCALFE, BINGLEY, and CO.'s only Establishment, 1308, Oxford-street, one door from Holles-street.—Metcalfe's Alkaline Tooth-Powder, 2s. per box.

FORD'S EUREKA SHIRTS, 30s. the Half-dozen.—"The Shirt before us (Mr. Ford's Eureka) appears in every way calculated to fit, and fully bears out the inventor's statement, as 'the most unique and the only perfect fitting shirt.'"—Observer, October 7th, 1849.—List of Prices, with Directions for Self-Measurement, sent post-free. Patterns of the new Coloured Shirtings forwarded to select from, on receipt of six postage stamps.—RICHARD FORD, 185, Strand, London.

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AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, CAPE of GOOD HOPE, NATAL, &c. PASSENGERS to the COLONIES, generally, may obtain their OUTFITS from S. W. SILVER and Co., CLOTHIERS, &c., 66 and 67, CORNHILL, at wholesale prices. SILVER and Co. make nearly the whole of the articles comprised in an outfit, to secure durability, so that the Cabin Folding Furniture may become permanent Household Furniture on arrival in the colony. They also engage PASSAGES, and give ship-sailing INFORMATION, but they neither receive nor pay a commission, their object being to give PASSENGERS who place themselves in their hands every benefit, and they forward such packages for their customers (gratis) through their AGENTS in the COLONIES. SILVER and Co. give DRAFTS on AUSTRALIA, at sixty days sight, of £103 for every £100 paid here. The EMIGRANT Fitting-out Branch is at No. 4, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, opposite the London Tavern, where a comfortable fit out, for male and female, including bedding, may be obtained for FOUR POUNDS. A Branch of each at ST. GEORGE'S-CRESCENT, LIVERPOOL.

LANCET-EDGE RAZOR, Registered Jan. 22, 1848.—Gentlemen are invited to inspect this unequalled and scientific invention, which is the best that the present day affords



THE ST. MARYLEBONE BATHS AND WASHHOUSES.

This establishment has just been erected in the New-road, opposite Lisson-grove, and immediately adjoining the District County Court. The design consists of one *façade*, in the Italian style, with rusticated stone basement; the upper story being of red brick, with stone quoins and window-dressings, cornice, &c. The whole has a frontage of about 160 feet, of which the Baths and Wash-houses have 100 feet, with a depth of about 230 feet, and are arranged in four departments, with separate entrances for the different classes and sexes. The front building comprises the check-clerks' offices and waiting-rooms, with the superintendent's dwelling-rooms over; together with a board-room and other conveniences. There are 107 separate baths—24 of the first class, and 57 of the second class, for men; 6 of the first class, and 20 of the second class, for women: the charges for a hot bath being 2d. and 6d., and for a cold bath 1d. and 3d., in each class respectively, each supplied with clean towels, looking-glass, and other suitable conveniences. There is also, in each class, a vapour and shower bath. There are likewise two large swimming baths, with a constant supply of tepid water, and dressing-boxes arranged around for first and second-class bathers.

The Wash-houses are not quite completed; they will contain 89 separate pairs of wash-tubs and boilers, supplied with hot and cold water, and with a drying-closet to each compartment, and arranged in two classes. There is also a large ironing-room, plentifully supplied with hot irons. The whole establishment is spacious, well lighted, and ventilated by means of a lofty shaft (seen in our View), which also makes a good feature in the general effect of the building; and will, when completed, accommodate 5000 persons daily. It does great credit to the skill and ingenuity of the architect, Mr. C. Eales, under whose direction the whole has been executed; and bears testimony to the public spirit of the Vestry in adopting the Act of Parliament and carrying it out so liberally—the cost being about £20,000, including the freehold site.

GIACINTO ACHILLI, D.D.

(WHEN PRIOR OF A DOMINICAN CONVENT, IN NAPLES.)

DR. ACHILLI was born at Viterbo in 1803; he took the Dominican habit in his native town at the early age of sixteen; and in the year 1821 he was ordained a priest at Lucca, where he enjoyed the marked favour of the reigning Duke. He soon returned to Viterbo, where his talents, his learning, his eloquence, and his winning manners gained him universal esteem. The Vicar-General of the province placed the utmost confidence in him, and he was speedily raised to a position of trust in the Dominican order. In 1826 he was appointed Public Professor of Philosophy in the Lyceum; and he was also the first to fill the chair of Sacred Scripture in the seminary of Theology—a professorship which he had himself been the means of founding—thus early evincing that love for the word of God which eventually led to his separation from the Church of Rome. In 1833, he quitted Viterbo, carrying with him the goodwill and affection of all his countrymen, and proceeded to Rome, having been elected Regent or Prefect of Studies and Primary Professor in the College of Minerva. He was then appointed Visitor of all the Convents of the Dominicans in the Roman and Tuscan States, an office which he held until the year 1835, when he went to Capua, and was soon after elected Prior of a Dominican convent at Naples: at this time his pulpit eloquence, and his discourses from the Professor's chair, attracted much attention, and a lithographed portrait was taken, from which our Engraving is copied.

It was at this period that he first became thoroughly convinced that the doctrine of Transubstantiation was not warranted by Scripture; and his preaching soon became so decidedly Protestant that he was speedily summoned to Rome, and confined in the Inquisition. He was treated with kindness, and all efforts were made to induce him to re-consider his position, and re-enter the communion of the church of which he had hitherto been an ornament. He was set at liberty, under surveillance, and soon contrived to escape to the Ionian Islands, where he at once wrote and published a letter to the late Pope, openly declaring himself a Protestant; this was in the year 1841. He subsequently held the appointment of Professor of Theology in the Malta Protestant College. In 1848 he came to

England, where he remained until the flight of the Pope in the December of that year. This revolution, and the consequent religious liberty, induced him to return to Rome in February, 1849. During the whole period of the Republic he occupied himself in circulating copies of the Scriptures, and in receiving at his house the multitudes who thronged to him for explanation and instruction from morning until night. He did not preach openly, as the constitution granting perfect religious liberty had not yet been promulgated; and he carefully avoided taking any part in the political events which were occurring, although naturally sympathizing with the Republic.

On the capture of the city by General Oudinot, he wrote to his friends that there was nothing to fear for him so long as the French flag waved: his mission had been so innocent and so unmingled with politics, that no one could touch him; of course, when the Pope returned he must quit Rome, but till then he was safe—religious persecution could never be allowed under the shadow of the banner of France!

He was soon undeceived. On the night of the 29th of July, at eleven o'clock, four *sbirri* or agents of secret police presented themselves at the Palazzetto Borghese, where he resided, and supported by a corporal's party of *Chasseurs de Vincennes*, arrested him in the name of the French Prefect of Police, Mons. de Rouxau, and carried him off to the Inquisition, where he was placed in one of the foulest and dampest of their dungeons. The British Consul, Mr. Freeborn, exerted himself with his wonted generosity to obtain his release, but in vain. Dr. Achilli was a Roman subject and a Roman priest. Mr. Freeborn, however, succeeded in obtaining his removal to the Castle of St. Angelo, where he has remained closely confined, without permission to see or communicate with any friends. Meanwhile, a *processo* or secret trial has been going on, and is by this time concluded, and sentence perhaps pronounced; although the ill-used prisoner has not been even informed of what he is accused, nor examined or questioned in any form.

When the news of his arrest reached England, his numerous friends appealed to the French Government, who at once undertook to enquire into the matter. The Cardinals boldly asserted that he was not arrested for religion, but for dreadful crimes; and an "Abelard and Heloise" kind of a story respecting him was circulated throughout Europe.

Two of his most attached friends at once proceeded to Rome. Enquiries of a most searching character were instituted in Viterbo itself; the supposed crime had never been heard of, and Padre Achilli was remembered with the utmost respect and veneration. The Roman authorities now changed their ground: they boldly avowed that he was arrested, and should be punished for his apostasy as a priest and a friar; he was a Roman subject, and no foreign Power had a right to interfere. They denied all knowledge of the slanders they had circulated against him, and stood to the undoubted right of the Holy Office to try, to judge, and to punish him. His two friends in vain implored permission to see their suffering fellow-Protestant. General Baraguay d'Hilliers himself pressed this request on the Cardinal Vicar, but he referred it to the Pope, who sent an absolute refusal. Since then, a treacherous fellow-prisoner—the young protégé of the Pope and of Cardinal Lambruschini, who has been imprisoned for stealing some of the choicest medals in the Vatican collection—denounced him for having preached the Gospel to his fellow-prisoners; and orders were given to place him in the most rigid solitary confinement.

So stands the affair of Dr. Achilli; and it now remains to be seen what part the French Government will take. Will they allow their name, their soldiers, and their flag to be employed in carrying out the secret, midnight acts of the "Holy Office?" General Baraguay d'Hilliers has exerted himself much in behalf of the prisoner; but, alas! the position of France is so utterly false that



DR. GIACINTO ACHILLI.

his hands have been hitherto tied. It is comforting, however, to Dr. Achilli's friends to know, that he has expressed the warmest personal interest in Dr. Achilli's fate, and that all will be done in the way of good offices that the peculiar position of the General will allow.

LICHFIELD CORN EXCHANGE AND MARKET HALL.

Among the public buildings which have grown up of late in the ancient city of Lichfield, the Corn Exchange, Market Hall, and Savings-Bank may very truly be considered the most important and worthy of commemoration. The Market of Lichfield was originally granted by King Stephen, in 1161; and in a MS. in the British Museum, is an old sketch of the market-place, with the following account of the ancient cross built by Dean Deuton:—

"It was composed with 8 arches, supported with 8 pillars, of 8 squares. About 5 fote, on the two sides of this cross, towards the east and west, was annexed 2 crucifixes, about xviii or xx inches in length, very artificially cast in brass; on the top of the carved rails and banisters, being bound through with iron rods, was placed viii of our Saviour's Apostles, about iv foot in height, each carrying the emblem of their death, curiously carved to the life, in their several habits; and below them was cut in the stone the founder's coat of arms, (viz. back-cirled saints), which piece of work cost the said Deane an cix pounds; which they utterly destroyed, because a Cross."

In 1652, a small market-house of brick was substituted, which was taken down in 1785, and a stone building erected by subscription. This edifice was hemmed in by small houses unhealthy to the locality; and which, being pulled down about sixteen years ago, left the market-house an unsightly ruin in the very centre of the city.

In 1848, John P. Dyott, Jun., Esq., the present Mayor of Lichfield, formed the project of a Corn Exchange and Market Hall, and by his energy, and the co-operation of a company of gentlemen, the present building was commenced and finished; the Earl of Lichfield and Viscount Anson cordially supporting it.

The design is by Messrs. Johnson and Son, of Lichfield; the building is in the Elizabethan style, and consists of an arcade extending the entire length of the principal front, which leads into a spacious covered market. The upper room is the Corn Exchange, approached by a broad flight of stone steps, and is 63 feet in length and 34 feet wide. It is calculated to contain from 600 to 800 persons. One portion of the room is built as an octagon, with a chaste open roof, the timbers of which are stained a rich brown, and the ceiling between the joists a light rose tint—adding much to the general effect. A *dado* of American deal, highly varnished, runs round the room, the grain of the wood being unusually handsome. The room is lighted with gas, by means of three magnificent gilt chandeliers. There is also an elegant and convenient ante-room, thereby adding to the completeness of the building.

The whole of the works were completed by Messrs. Scott and Collyer, builders, of Lichfield; and the workmanship is admirably executed.

The opening of the Corn Exchange was announced to take place yesterday, to be celebrated by a grand dinner in the great room—Richard Green, Esq., the chairman of the company, presiding.

The accompanying Sketch is taken from Tamworth-street, and shows the principal front towards Conduit-street, and the Savings-Bank in Bore-street. The octagonal front faces St. Mary-square.

LONDON: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLE 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1850!



THE CORN EXCHANGE AND MARKET HALL, JUST ERECTED AT LICHFIELD.